

# Annual Report 2015



THE LAW SOCIETY  
OF SINGAPORE

## OUR PEOPLE

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## GROWING OUR PRACTICE

## ENHANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

## SERVING THE COMMUNITY

*Cover photo: Interior of the main dome of the former Supreme Court Building. Photo courtesy of the Supreme Court of Singapore*

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**our people**

**The old Subordinate Courts Complex at South Bridge Road**

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# The Council



*(Seated L to R): Tan Gim Hai Adrian, Lok Vi Ming, SC (Immediate Past President), Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President), Thio Shen Yi, SC (President), Kuah Boon Theng (Treasurer), Lim Seng Siew, Lam Kuet Keng Steven  
(Standing L to R): Anand Nalachandran, Sunil Sudheesan, Tan Beng Hwee Paul, Parhar Sunita Sonya, Chung Ka Kay Katie, Lin Weiqi Wendy, Simran Kaur Toor, Tien De Ming Grismond*

*Not in main picture:*



*Kelvin Wong  
(Vice-President)*



*Lisa Sam Hui Min*



*Chiam Tao Koon*



*Chandradas Usha Ranee*



*Yeo Chuan Tat*



*Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran*

# The Executive Committee



(L to R): Lim Seng Siew, Tan Gim Hai Adrian, Gregory Vijayendran, Thio Shen Yi, SC, Kuah Boon Theng, Anand Nalachandran

Not in main picture:



Kelvin Wong

# Council Report

## OUTGOING COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR 2014

The term of the following Council members ended on 31 December 2014:

Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel  
Lee Terk Yang  
See Chern Yang  
Tan Joon Liang Josephus

## COUNCIL MEMBERS FOR THE PERIOD 1 JANUARY 2015 TO 31 DECEMBER 2015

### Senior Category (not less than 12 years' standing)

Thio Shen Yi, SC (President)  
Kelvin Wong (Vice-President)  
Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President)  
Kuah Boon Theng (Treasurer)  
Lok Vi Ming, SC (Immediate Past President)  
Lim Seng Siew (Executive Committee Member)  
Tan Gim Hai Adrian (Executive Committee Member)  
Lam Kuet Keng Steven  
Parhar Sunita Sonya  
Lisa Sam Hui Min  
Anand Nalachandran (Executive Committee Member)

### Middle Category (7 to 12 years' standing)

Chiam Tao Koon  
Chandradas Usha Ranee  
Sunil Sudheesan  
Yeo Chuan Tat  
Chung Ka Kay Katie  
Lin Weiqi Wendy

### Junior Category (less than 7 years' standing)

Tan Beng Hwee Paul  
Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran  
Simran Kaur Toor  
Tien De Ming Grismond

## THE FOLLOWING ARE STATUTORY MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE MINISTER OF LAW TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL

Kelvin Wong  
Kuah Boon Theng  
Sunil Sudheesan

## THE FOLLOWING ARE MEMBERS APPOINTED BY COUNCIL TO SERVE ON THE COUNCIL

Lim Seng Siew  
Parhar Sunita Sonya  
Chiam Tao Koon  
Chandradas Usha Ranee  
Yeo Chuan Tat

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

There were 4 ordinary meetings of the Council from September 2014 to December 2014. The attendance of members was as follows:

Member	Present	Absent
Lok Vi Ming, SC (President)	4	0
Thio Shen Yi, SC (Vice-President)	3	1
Kelvin Wong (Vice-President)	2	2
Gregory Vijayendran (Treasurer)	3	1
Lim Seng Siew	4	0
Kuah Boon Theng	3	1
Eng Yaag Ngee Rachel	0	4
Tan Gim Hai Adrian	1	3
Lam Kuet Keng Steven	1	3
Parhar Sunita Sonya	1	3
Lisa Sam Hui Min	2	2
Anand Nalachandran	4	0
Lee Terk Yang	3	1
Chiam Tao Koon (from August 2014)	2	2
Chandradas Usha Ranee	2	2
See Chern Yang	4	0
Yeo Chuan Tat	3	1
Tan Beng Hwee Paul	1	3
Tan Joon Liang Josephus	3	1
Simran Kaur Toor	2	2
Tien De Ming Grismond	2	2

There were 8 ordinary meetings of the Council from January 2015 to August 2015. The attendance of members was as follows:

Member	Present	Absent
Thio Shen Yi, SC (President)	8	0
Kelvin Wong (Vice-President)	8	0
Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President)	7	1
Kuah Boon Theng (Treasurer)	8	0
Lok Vi Ming, SC (Immediate Past President)	3	5
Lim Seng Siew	7	1
Tan Gim Hai Adrian	7	1
Lam Kuet Keng Steven	5	3
Parhar Sunita Sonya	2	6
Lisa Sam Hui Min	4	4
Anand Nalachandran	7	1
Chiam Tao Koon	5	3
Chandradas Usha Ranee	2	6
Sunil Sudheesan	6	2
Yeo Chuan Tat	4	4
Chung Ka Kay Katie	3	5
Lin Weiqi Wendy	3	5
Tan Beng Hwee Paul	3	5
Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran	4	4
Simran Kaur Toor	4	4
Tien De Ming Grismond	3	5

# The Secretariat



*(Seated L to R): K Gopalan, Michael Ho, Tan Su-Yin, Lim Tanguy, Gopinath s/o B Pillai*

*(Standing L to R): Kenneth Goh, Shawn Toh, Eoin Ó Muimhneacháin, Clifford Hang, Jasmine Liew, Claudine Tan, Sharmaine Lau, Jean Wong, Delphine Loo Tan, Daniel Tan*

*Not in main picture:*



*Ambika Rajendram*

**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Tan Su-Yin

**COMPLIANCE**

Kenneth Goh, Director, Department Head

Daniel Tan, Assistant Director

**CONDUCT**

Ambika Rajendram, Director, Department Head

K Gopalan, Director

**REPRESENTATION & LAW REFORM**

Delphine Loo Tan, Director, Department Head

K Gopalan, Director

**ADMINISTRATION**

Clifford Hang, Director, Department Head

**COMMUNICATIONS & MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS**

Shawn Toh, Director, Department Head

**CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Jean Wong, Director, Department Head

**FINANCE**

Jasmine Liew, Director, Department Head

Clifford Hang, Director

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

Michael Ho, Director, Department Head

**PRO BONO SERVICES**

Lim Tanguy, Director, Department Head

Gopinath s/o B Pillai, Senior Assistant Director  
(from 5 May 2015)

Claudine Tan, Assistant Director (from 5 August 2015)

Eoin Ó Muimhneacháin, Assistant Director

**PUBLICATIONS**

Sharmaine Lau, Director, Department Head

# President's Message

At the time of writing this, it has been just over 8 and a half months since I took over the office of President of the Law Society. It feels longer than that. But an interesting journey always feels longer both because of the many and memorable milestones along the way.

Notwithstanding that I had been in Council for 3 years prior to being elected President, 2 as Vice-President, one never truly appreciates the scope and breadth of the job until actually stepping into the shoes of one's predecessor.

I must record my deepest thanks to the men and women of the Secretariat, sometimes overworked, often under-appreciated, but consistently dedicated even in the face of harassment, unreasonable demands and uncalled for criticism. They soldier on, nonetheless. I record my gratitude to their considerable patience in dealing with my incessant queries, suggestions and occasional ignorance of the subject matter at hand with the utmost equanimity.

Some Council members, Committee chairs, Committee members and other volunteers, display an incredible sense of engagement and ownership, far over and above the call of duty. I am awed by their spirit of service, true selflessness and commitment. It is a privilege to serve amongst them and be counted in their number.

I am fortunate to be able to build on the work of my two predecessors, Wong Meng Meng, SC and Lok Vi Ming, SC. I served in each of their Councils. Where we are today, and where we are headed, is part of a continuing plan to equip and modernise the Law Society and legal profession to face the challenges of the 21st Century, to ensure that we remain relevant to the legal and wider community. The Law Society is and must continue to be the voice of the profession, and a fundamental pillar of civil society

committed to upholding the Rule of Law and the independence of the Bar.

In this regard, events in Malaysia and the actions taken by my counterparts across the causeway have given me cause to reflect. I have nothing but admiration for my learned friends in the Malaysian Bar Council. The challenges they face are vastly different from ours. Their relationships with the government, judiciary and the authorities are, to put it kindly, sometimes confrontational, often tense. We suffer under no such impediments in our dealings with our judiciary, government, attorney-general's chambers and regulatory authorities. The relationships are constructive, respectful and most importantly, productive – the Singapore way, where things get done sans drama, where we can disagree dispassionately yet strive for common ground, and where sometimes progress is steady and incremental, instead of explosive.

2015 has been exciting, and here is a non-exhaustive list. JustWalk was unprecedented in its wide participation and the awareness that it raised. We kicked off enhanced CLAS, many years in the making, and a game changer in the pro bono eco-system. We've seen the introduction of the Professional Conduct rules, where we played a vital role in modernising them and ensuring as far as possible, a level playing field amongst domestic and foreign lawyers. FATF required Singapore to institute wide ranging anti-money laundering laws across various professions, including ours. The Law Society worked hard to ensure that the regulatory burden on our members was kept as reasonably as the law allowed. The conduct of lawyers came under scrutiny and we had to devise plans to get our house in order as part of our aspirations to call ourselves world class lawyers. A pilot scheme to video police interviews was approved and we got the pamphlet of rights into police stations. Our first Honorary Member, Mr Lee Kuan Yew passed

away and I had the privilege of leading a delegation of Council members and former Law Society Presidents to Sri Temasek to pay our respects at the private wake. We won the Bench & Bar Games with our biggest ever margin, and as a bonus, also won the boat race!

But Council still has much to do – again, I offer a non-exhaustive list. We need to look at the young lawyers' exodus at the senior associate level, and consider how we can encourage greater longevity in the profession. The possible introduction of flexible fee arrangements is an issue which consistently arises in a competitive globalised market. The inaugural Malaysia/Singapore Summit will take place on 23 October in Kuala Lumpur. We hope to make this an annual tradition where we can share knowledge, discuss issues, and build networks. The LSRA becomes operational soon, and we need to adapt to this. While addressing our members' standards of behaviour in our aspiration for a world class legal profession, we also need to have a more systematic and rational way to deal with complaints against judicial officers. We continue to consider possible legislative changes to the LPA to rationalise and keep it relevant, including the expansion of the middle category; changes to the SAR to make things easier for lawyers and law firms; changes to the Compensation Rules to make it easier to use the surplus funds to provide a library for our members; increased powers to Council to impose a greater range of less draconian and more constructive measures when exercising our disciplinary function. That's just a taster of what is on the plate for the next year and beyond.

There are frustrations, irritations and occasional moments of outright absurdity. One instance I remember was when the mainstream media carried the story that I had been elected President. I was encouraged by many congratulatory messages and notes of goodwill and support. But there was

one e-mail from an opposing party whom I had previously cross-examined, saying that I was being sent a message of "non-congratulations"! Perhaps this was akin to the apocryphal "dislike" button on Facebook. The ridiculousness of the moment actually made my day. I can only conclude that having a sense of humour, and not taking oneself too seriously, keeps one sane. While I sometimes still quip that I'm doing "national service", the irreducible truth remains that serving our profession as Law Society President is an honour, a privilege and oftentimes an education.

Is it still the "least enviable job in the legal profession"? Not any more.

**Thio Shen Yi, SC**  
President



# CEO's Report

During the reporting year, there were a number of developments in the legal industry which set significant milestones for the legal profession in Singapore. The Law Society had a busy year launching various new initiatives for its members and the community. This report highlights how the legal profession and the Law Society have worked together during the year as advocates for the legal profession and the wider community.

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

### I. Pro Bono Services

#### 1. Enhanced Criminal Legal Aid Scheme ("CLAS")

Enhanced CLAS was officially launched on 18 May 2015 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law, Mr K Shanmugam. The enhanced CLAS aims to serve up to 6,000 accused persons each year. CLAS has also been enhanced to cover an expanded range of criminal offences, and will offer assistance to applicants who intend to plead guilty.

CLAS will continue to be run by the Law Society's Pro Bono Services Office ("PBSO"), with the Government providing funding which will cover initial start-up costs, and an annual commitment to defray operational costs, honoraria and disbursements. The Law Society will continue to independently raise funds to cover the rest of the costs. The enhanced CLAS will now be able to serve many more accused persons facing criminal charges.

To serve the potential bigger pool of people seeking assistance, the following 3 mechanisms to grow the pool of lawyers for CLAS have been implemented:

(i) **Lead Lawyers** - Senior criminal law practitioners appointed as Lead Lawyers will provide basic legal advice, assess the merits of a case and decide on the level of aid to be given;

(ii) **CLAS Fellows** - Law firms will second or sponsor lawyers to work full-time at the PBSO exclusively on CLAS cases; and

(iii) **Memorandums of Understanding** - 16 law firms have pledged to take on almost 250 CLAS cases per year between them.

Other key features of the enhanced scheme are:

(i) An enhanced means test will allow more applicants to qualify for criminal legal aid. Persons with a disposable income of not more than \$10,000 per annum and a disposable capital of not more than \$10,000 may be granted aid;

(ii) Co-payment to ensure that applicants also contribute towards their defence, and do not abuse the system; and

(iii) Honoraria to be paid to lawyers as a token of appreciation for their pro bono contributions.

#### 2. Community Legal Clinics

Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Mayors' Committee on 12 September 2014, PBSO is expanding its Community Legal Clinic ("CLC") network by inviting non-PBSO administered clinics to join the network. The CLC network aims to offer free resources, information and manpower (through volunteer mobilisation).

PBSO is also introducing a new mentoring programme for its CLCs to allow senior lawyers to provide guidance to their junior counterparts. This mentoring programme will take the form of a 3 to 6 month onsite "buddy" system and/or a "Mentor-on-call" system, where senior lawyers (based on areas of specialisation) provide assistance and/or guidance to junior lawyers during clinic sessions via telephone.

#### 3. Law Awareness Week

The 5 Community Development Councils ("CDCs") of Singapore collaborated with the Law Society to host Law Awareness Week 2015 @ CDC ("LAW").

This is the first time that the CDCs are working with the Law Society to introduce a series of law talks to the residents in the public and private estates across the 5 CDC districts.

More than 30 legal awareness talks were organised for the public during LAW held from 20-26 July 2015. The talks were held at locations close to the community in the heartlands, and covered a wide range of legal topics including Employment Law, Consumer Protection Law, Cyber Wellness, Privacy and Intellectual Property Rights and Advance Planning. The presentations were tailored to non-legally trained audiences, with the intention of breaking the “legal jargon” down into easy-to-understand elements. The aim of these presentations was to promote awareness, instil a basic understanding of the law, and empower Singaporeans to navigate basic legal issues.

The revised Know the Law (“KTL”) booklet was also launched and distributed at the LAW launch event. The KTL booklet is a legal guide for members of the public on various topics of Singapore Law relevant to everyday life.

#### **4. Justice for All Project – Just Walk Fundraiser**

The Justice for All project was launched in 2014, and includes plans to enhance CLAS and make legal knowledge accessible to more in Singapore. Justice for All aims to increase the collaborative efforts and engagement between the legal fraternity and other sections of the community, including voluntary welfare organisations and corporations outside of the legal industry. Apart from legal representation for criminal matters, the project aims to involve more lawyer-volunteers to play a larger role in the spread of legal knowledge in Singapore’s ever-changing legal landscape.

As part of the PBSO’s fund raising efforts, Justice for All was kicked off by a Charity Walkathon titled “Just Walk” on 10 January 2015 which coincided with Singapore’s celebration of SG50. This inaugural walkathon was a tremendous success, with approximately 2,000 lawyers, friends from the legal fraternity and our stakeholders participating, walking past key legal institutions such as the Supreme Court, the State Courts, Attorney-General’s Chambers, Ministry of Law and the Law

Society of Singapore. The walkathon raised \$2 million which includes a dollar-for-dollar funding contribution from the Government’s Care and Share grant. The funds raised will go towards the outreach work to increase legal awareness, as well as to support the PBSO’s key initiatives, enhanced CLAS and Community Legal Clinics.

#### **5. Appropriate Adults Volunteer Mobilisation Scheme**

In 2012, the Attorney-General’s Chambers formed a committee tasked to explore ways to improve the communication between a person with intellectual or mental disabilities (“PWID”) and the law enforcement authorities. This led to the pilot run of the Appropriate Adult Scheme at Bedok Police Division, administered by the Law Society, where specially trained volunteers (Appropriate Adults) acted as the bridge between the Investigation Officer and the PWID. The presence of the adults facilitated the interview process and enabled PWIDs to understand the Officer’s queries and communicate more effectively.

Following its successful pilot run which assisted close to 50 PWIDs, the scheme will now be rolled out to all 6 police land divisions in 2015. The PBSO which administers the scheme, is targeting to increase the current pool of Appropriate Adults from 60 to more than 300 volunteers in order to facilitate the scheme’s expansion.

Law Society and the Central Singapore Community Development Council (“CDC”) launched the Appropriate Adult Volunteers Mobilisation on 31 March 2015. Central Singapore CDC will, through its extensive network of community partners, create awareness of the scheme and to help mobilise volunteers.

## **II. Legal Practice**

### **A. Key Consultations**

The Law Society was involved in several private and public consultations during the reporting period. The key consultations are highlighted in the next page.

## 1. Professional Conduct Rules

The Committee to Review the Regulatory Framework of the Singapore Legal Services Sector (the "Committee") submitted its recommendations to the Ministry of Law on 21 January 2014. The Government accepted the recommendations by the Committee which included the establishment of a new entity regulator, the Legal Services Regulatory Authority ("LSRA").

The LSRA will regulate all law practice entities in Singapore. Existing regulatory functions performed by the Law Society of Singapore (for Singapore law practices) and the Attorney-General's Chambers (for foreign law practices and registration of foreign lawyers) will be transferred to the LSRA.

Legal Disciplinary Practices ("LDPs") will be permitted, where non-lawyer managers/employees will be allowed to own equity and/or share in the profits of the LDP. LDPs will only be allowed to provide legal services. The LSRA will regulate LDPs.

The LSRA is expected to be established in the fourth quarter of this year.

## 2. Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism

Singapore is a member of the Financial Action Task Force ("FATF") which is an inter-governmental body established in 1989. The objectives of the FATF include setting standards and promoting effective implementation of legal, regulatory and operational measures for combating money laundering and terrorist financing.

The FATF conducts an evaluation exercise involving each member on an ongoing basis to assess levels of implementation of the standards set by the FATF. In November 2015, FATF will conduct an on-site assessment of the implementation of the prevention of money laundering and financing of terrorism standards in Singapore. FATF will assess how well the legal profession does in applying client due diligence and record keeping measures.

Part VA of the Legal Profession Act on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of

Terrorism, and the Legal Profession (Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism) Rules (the "Rules") came into operation on 23 May 2015. The Rules closely follow the standards set by the FATF. The Council of the Law Society has issued a Practice Direction on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism which took effect from 23 July 2015. This Practice Direction sets out directions and guidance on Part VA of the Legal Profession Act and the Rules.

The Council of the Law Society will continue to assist members to understand their obligations under Part VA of the Legal Profession Act and the Rules through seminars and materials on the Law Society's website and the Law Gazette.

## B. Other Legal Initiatives

### 1. PDPC Hotline

The Law Society launched the Personal Data Protection Act Legal Advice Scheme on 1 June 2015 in collaboration with the Personal Data Protection Commission. The Scheme has been designed as a one-hour basic legal consultation for Small and Medium Enterprises regarding their compliance with the Personal Data Protection Act.

### 2. Primary Justice Project

In 2014, the Law Society worked with the State Courts and Community Justice Centre in starting up the Primary Justice Project ("PJP"). This year, the Law Society participated in discussions to enhance the scope of the PJP scheme to include Prevention of Harassment Act ("POHA") and criminal law matters.

## III. Membership Initiatives

### 1. Mission to India

The Law Society together with Ministry of Law, Singapore International Commercial Court, Singapore International Mediation Centre and Singapore International Arbitration Centre organised a Mission to India to promote Singapore's full suite of international dispute resolution services and to promote Singapore as a choice location to resolve international commercial disputes.

The Mission was held from 7 to 10 September 2015 in New Delhi and Mumbai. More than 30 lawyers from Singapore took part in the Mission. As part of the mission, a seminar to interact with the business community and an evening networking event to engage with members of the Indian Bar were organised. Over 180 lawyers in India attended the seminar and networking events, and the participants included managing partners and senior partners of Indian law firms.

## **2. Memorandums of Understanding (“MOUS”)**

To promote and strengthen the cooperation between the Law Society of Singapore and overseas bar associations and the exchanges between Singapore lawyers and lawyers in overseas jurisdictions, the Law Society signed 5 MOUs during the period of reporting with the following regional bar associations - Guangxi Lawyers’ Association, Shenzhen Lawyers Association, Korean Bar Association, Daini Tokyo Bar Association and Japan Federation of Bar Associations.

In addition, Law Society and Japan Federation of Bar Associations jointly organised a seminar, Globalisation of Legal Practices - An Asian Perspective, in Singapore on 22 June 2015.

## **3. Council and Committee Lunches**

The Council held regular bi-monthly lunches at the State Courts Bar Room to update members on developments within the profession. These were well attended by members, and Council looks forward to continuing the practice of regularly meeting with members at these lunches.

The Small Law Firms Committee and State Courts Committee have also organised regular lunches with members throughout the year. These sessions have been organised for members to discuss the latest practice developments, interact with other members and provide feedback on issues that impact the profession.

## **4. Rental of Meeting Rooms at the Society’s Headquarters**

The Law Society’s renovations at 39 South Bridge Road were completed in November 2014, with the building officially re-opened on 18 November

2014 by past Presidents of the Society, followed by a simple open house for members. Over the past couple of months, we have had the pleasure of hosting members, overseas delegates and local guests at our renovated premises. The “new” premises now comfortably accommodate 45 Secretariat staff, with the capacity to accommodate up to 60.

One of the main aims of the renovations was to make available additional meeting room space for use by our Committees and our members. Since May 2015, we have been pleased to open up our meeting rooms for booking by members at reasonable rates. The take-up so far has been encouraging, with meeting rooms open for booking between 10:00am and 5:00pm on weekdays (excluding public holidays), subject to availability.

## **5. Additional Amenities for State Courts Bar Room**

Based on feedback from members, an extra television set was installed during the year to stream news programmes such as Channel News Asia for the convenience of members in the State Courts Bar Room.

## **IV. Continuing Professional Development (“CPD”)**

### **1. Statistics**

The Law Society’s CPD programmes continue to perform well this past year. Over 70 seminars, workshops and conferences were organised and supported by the Society from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, which attracted more than 5,600 registrations from both members and non-members.

### **2. Phase 2 Mandatory CPD**

Phase 2 of the Mandatory CPD Scheme came into effect in January 2015. Practitioners with up to 15 years of practice experience are now required to fulfil mandatory CPD requirements. The increase in number of practitioners requiring CPD points has resulted in an increase in demand for the Society’s CPD activities. The CPD Committee, together with the various practice Committees of the Society have stepped up to the challenge by designing

and developing more CPD activities for members throughout the course of this year.

### **3. eLearning**

Besides face-to-face CPD activities, the Law Society is committed to exploring other channels of providing CPD activities to our members. Online e-learning programmes were launched in November 2014 and a webinar was organised for our members in August 2015 – a first for the Law Society. We will continue to explore new ways of providing CPD activities to our members in a cost effective manner, whilst ensuring ease of access.

**Tan Su-Yin**

Chief Executive Officer



# Treasurer's Report

The financial year ended 31 March 2015 has been another busy year for the Law Society. The year has seen a continued increase in the scope of activities undertaken by the Society in terms of continuing professional development and pro bono work. Prudence in cost control continues to be one of the core values of the Society, and this has enabled the Society to maintain a healthy surplus this year.

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

- Working with the Secretariat to prepare the Society's overall budget for Council's approval;
- Working with the respective Committees to prepare detailed annual work plan budgets for Council's approval;
- Developing the financial and investment policies and guidelines for the Society;
- Reviewing the Society's financial investments and appointment of bankers;
- Reviewing financial protocols and internal controls of the Society;
- Ensuring financial accountability to Council, the Society and its members;
- 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 6 other members. The members are Gregory Vijayendran, Adrian Chan, Gary Pryke, Kelvin Wong, Michael S. Chia and Usha Chandradas. We are 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 a month.

This report covers the main highlights of the financial performance of the Society during the

financial year ended 31 March 2015 (**Current Financial Year**).

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE - GENERAL FUND

Our General Fund reported a before-tax surplus of \$1.04 million for the Current Financial Year (cf a before-tax surplus of \$1.33 million for the financial year ended 31 March 2014 (**Previous Financial Year**)). Total income in the Current Financial Year increased by 9% to \$6.03 million whilst total expenditure increased to \$4.99 million.

### Income

The main factor which contributed to the 9% increase in income was the increase in subscriptions received from practising members which increased by about 5% to \$4.60 million, in line with an increase in the total number of practising members from 4,741 to 4,997.

Net surplus (before overheads allocation) from Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") programmes and conferences increased to \$980,429 (cf \$682,447 in the Previous Financial Year) due to more conferences being held during the financial year.

Investment income, income from fixed deposits and revenue from advertisements in the Society's directory and classifieds has remained relatively constant.

Other income declined to \$97,002 from \$120,837 due mainly to a decline in penalty collections during the year. These were recovered subsequent to financial year end.

## Expenditure

The following are the main reasons for the increase in total expenditure to \$4.99 million, an increase of 18% or \$768,986:

- Administrative expenses have increased from \$0.60 million to \$0.86 million, with the increase largely due to the increase in depreciation expenses in relation to the renovations at 39 South Bridge Road and the State Courts Bar Room;
- There was an increase in the Society's mandatory contribution to the SILE, from \$473,760 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$494,930, in line with the increase in ordinary members;
- The Society increased its donation to support the activities of Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services, from \$570,000 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$650,000;
- Expenditure for Council's activities (including meetings and events) has increased from \$88,699 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$145,731; and
- Expenditure on regulatory matters amounted to \$213,653 compared to a Previous Financial Year surplus of \$139,497 due to an over provision of fees written back in the Previous Financial Year.

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – COMPENSATION FUND

The increase in net overall surplus, from \$362,100 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$697,517 can be attributed to the following:

- Total income increased by 5% to \$761,385, due mainly to members' contribution in line with the increase in number of our members.
- Total expenditure decreased from \$362,100 in the Previous Financial Year to \$63,868, as no grants were paid in the Current Financial year under Section 75(9) of the Legal Profession Act.

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – PRO BONO LEARNING AND SUPPORT SERVICES FUND

There was an overall surplus of \$537,867 for the Current Financial Year, compared to a surplus of \$149,433 in the Previous Financial Year.

Key highlights are as follows:

- A 27% increase in income to \$3.03 million resulting from an increase in donations received, including donations from:

Law Society of Singapore – General Fund	increase of \$80,000
Just Walk (Jan 2015)	increase of \$1,069,440
Contribution from NCSS for Appropriate Adult Scheme	increase of \$87,404
Contribution from NCSS (Care & Share matching grant)	increase of \$85,965

Partially offset by a decrease in income from the following:

Ministry of Law	decrease of \$183,394
Charity Golf (Nov 2013)	decrease of \$383,640
Singapore Academy of Law	decrease of \$100,000

- Increase in expenditure of 11% to \$2.49 million, attributable to:
  - » Increase in administrative expenditure to \$383,114 (cf \$198,872 for the Previous Financial Year), due to the rental cost of the PBSO Office at Market Street and higher depreciation costs for the renovations at the PBSO Office at State Courts, in line with the needs of Enhanced CLAS.

## OTHER FUNDS

- Other Funds comprise the Sports Meet Fund, Welfare Fund, Library Fund, Jus Curio Fund and Pastoral Care Fund;

- Overall, there was a deficit of \$4,621 for the Other Funds (cf a surplus of \$10,218 in the Previous Financial Year). This was mainly due to the decrease in the surplus for the Jus Curio Fund due to a decline in sales.

## BALANCE SHEET

The key highlights of the balance sheet of the Society as at 31 March 2015 are as follows:

- General Fund reserves stood at \$16.71 million, an increase of about 7.7%, principally from the surplus for the Current Financial Year.
- General Fund total assets amounted to \$18.37 million, including \$5.76 million being held as fixed deposits, cash at bank and in hand, and \$4.05 million being held as bonds and equity investments;
- Compensation Fund total assets amounted to \$12.28 million, including \$6.51 million being held as fixed deposits, cash at bank and in hand, and \$5.08 million being held as bonds and equity investments;
- General Fund total liabilities stood at \$1.66 million, partly in relation to advance payment of the application fees for the practising certificates for FY2015/2016, which were received prior to 31 March 2015;
- The Society had no external borrowings;
- The Society continues to invest in blue-chip securities and bonds which provide a conservative yet steady return to keep up with inflation. The average yield derived from bonds is about 3.1% per annum. The net income from investments was \$310,266 (cf \$329,656 in the Previous Financial Year). There was a surplus of \$580,923 in the fair value reserve of the Society's investments (representing the increase in the market value as at 31 March 2015 over the historical transacted price. As at 31 March 2015, the Society had invested in the following:

### Bonds

- » ABN Amro Bank 4.7% Oct 22
- » Asceit Trust Aug 2019
- » Ascott Capital (16.08.2019)
- » CDL APR 2020 3%

- » CWT APR 2018 3.9%
- » DBSS (2022 FEB)
- » FCL Treasury PT (June 2022)
- » First Reit May 2018-4.125%
- » Franklin Templeton Inv FD
- » Fullerton Bond Fund B1 (Nov 2010)
- » Gucoland 3.6% (AUG2017)
- » Gucoland 4.125% (2015)
- » Gucoland 4.35% Sep 2017
- » HDB (Mar 2021)
- » HK Land Treasury Services (05.10.2015)
- » Hotel Properties 3.94% (April 2020)
- » HPL 3.93 (10.06.2017)
- » Lend Lease (2021)
- » LMRTSP 4.25% (Apr 2016)
- » LMRTSP 4.88% 2015
- » Malayan Banking Notes 2008 (Perpetual)
- » Morgan 3.8% Jan 2016
- » Morgan 4% Oct 2017
- » NOL 4.4% Nov 2019
- » OUE 4.25% Oct 2019
- » SIA (Apr 2021)
- » Suntec 3.35% 2020
- » UOL 3.043 (8.05.2017)
- » Wing Tai (Oct 2018)

### Equities

- » Ascendas REIT
- » Capitaland Ltd
- » ComfortDelgro Corp Ltd
- » DBS
- » DBS Bank 4.7% NCPS
- » Frasersct
- » HYFLUX
- » Kep REIT
- » Parkway Life Reit
- » SATS
- » Sembcorp Industries
- » SGX
- » Singapore Post Ltd
- » Singapore Press Holdings Ltd
- » Singapore Telecommunications Ltd
- » SPH
- » STARHUB
- » Suntec REIT
- » UOB
- » Venture Corporation Ltd

## CONCLUSION

The 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 – Gregory, Kelvin, Gary, Michael, Adrian, Usha 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 a projected increase in the activities of the various sub-committees, and the expansion and advancement of the Society in the pro bono space. 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.

**Kuah Boon Theng**  
Treasurer



# Audit Committee Report

*Michael Hwang, SC, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

The other members of the Audit Committee are:

- Adrian Tan
- Francis Xavier, SC
- Thio Shen Yi, SC

During the reporting year, the Committee revised and updated the Law Society's Whistle Blowing Policy (first implemented in 2014) with the objective of enhancing corporate governance of the Society.

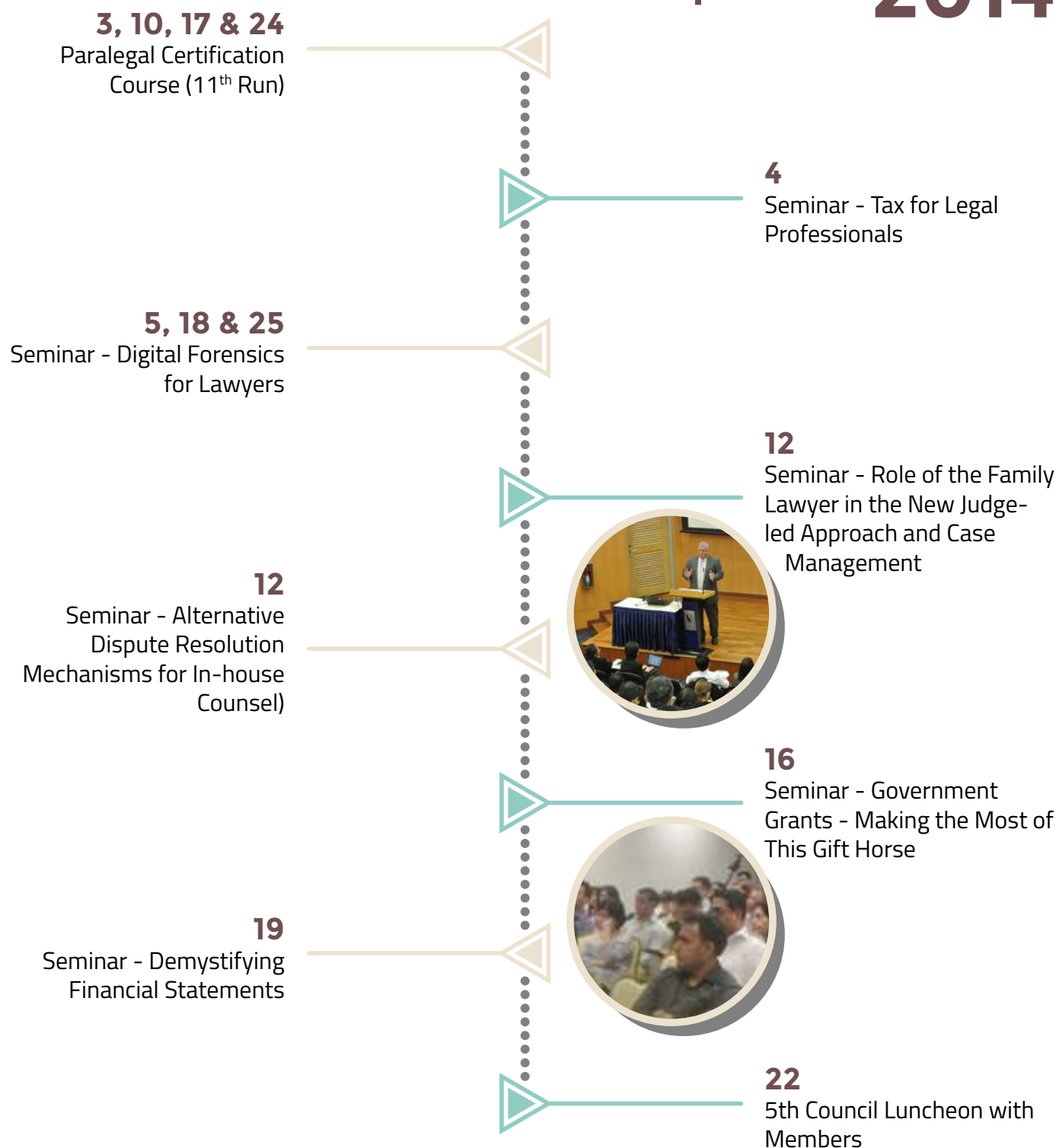
The external auditors, Messers Baker Tilly TFW LLP issued a clean audit opinion on the financial

statements of the Society for the year ended 31 March 2015.

In addition to the above, the Secretariat sought to continuously evaluate and improve internal controls across all operational and financial processes. Greater emphasis was placed on education of management and staff to improve awareness of internal controls and financial protocols across the Society.

# Year in Review

## September 2014



# October 2014

**2 - 4**

3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Asia Pro Bono  
Conference 2014

**9**

Paralegal Certification  
Course (11<sup>th</sup> Run)

**13**

Annual General Meeting

**14**

Seminar - Mediation  
Advocacy

**21**

Seminar - Trusts Litigation -  
New Frontiers

**22**

Visit by Chief Justice  
Mogoeng Mogoeng of South  
Africa

**28**

Annual Election of Council

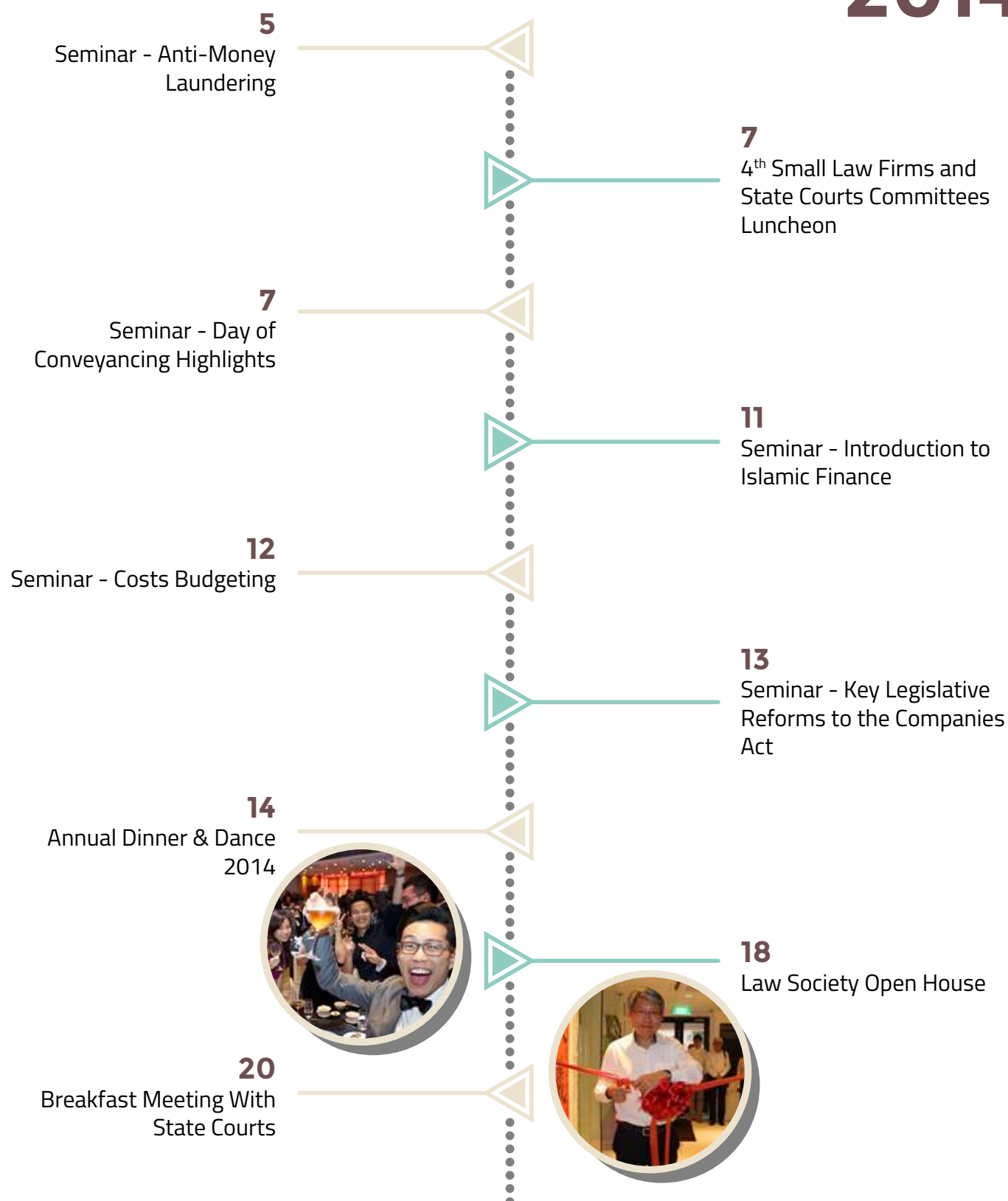
**29-31**

Seminar - Mental Capacity  
Act and Lasting Power of  
Attorney

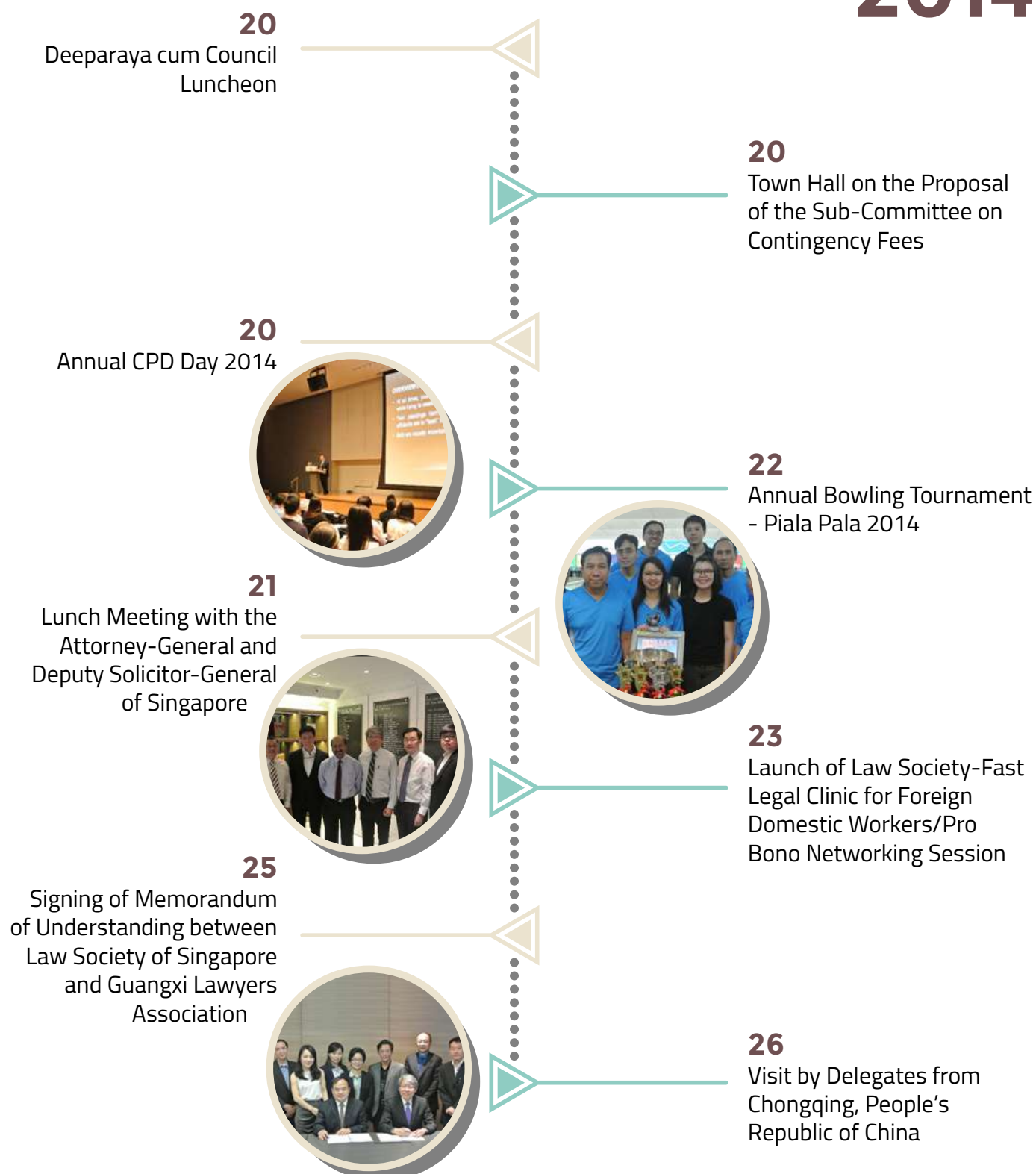
**30**

Seminar - How International  
Tribunals Work in Practice

# November 2014



# November 2014



# December 2014

8

Signing of Memorandum  
of Understanding between  
Law Society of Singapore  
and Shenzhen Lawyers  
Association



22

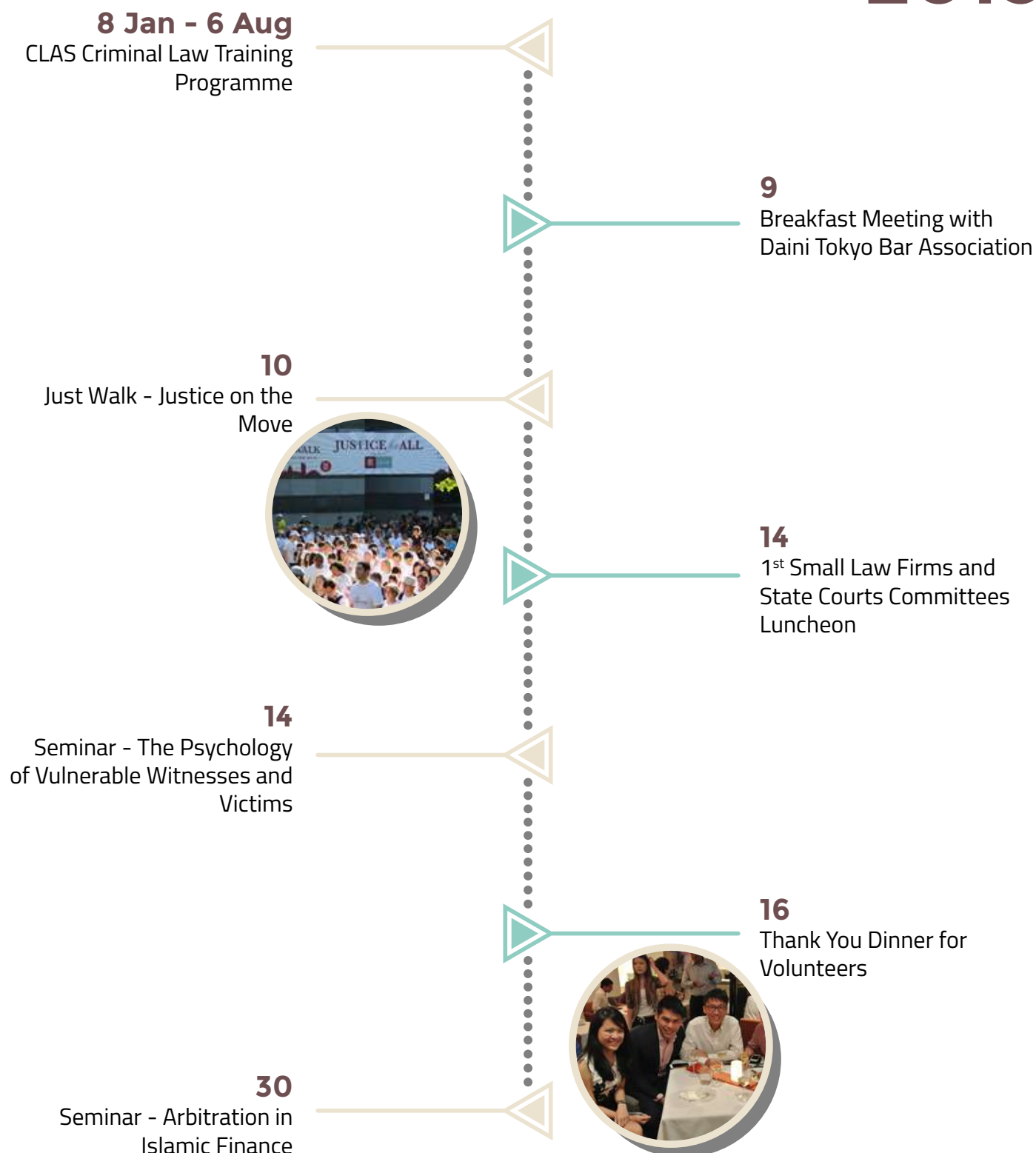
Meeting with Permanent  
Secretary, Ministry of Law

23

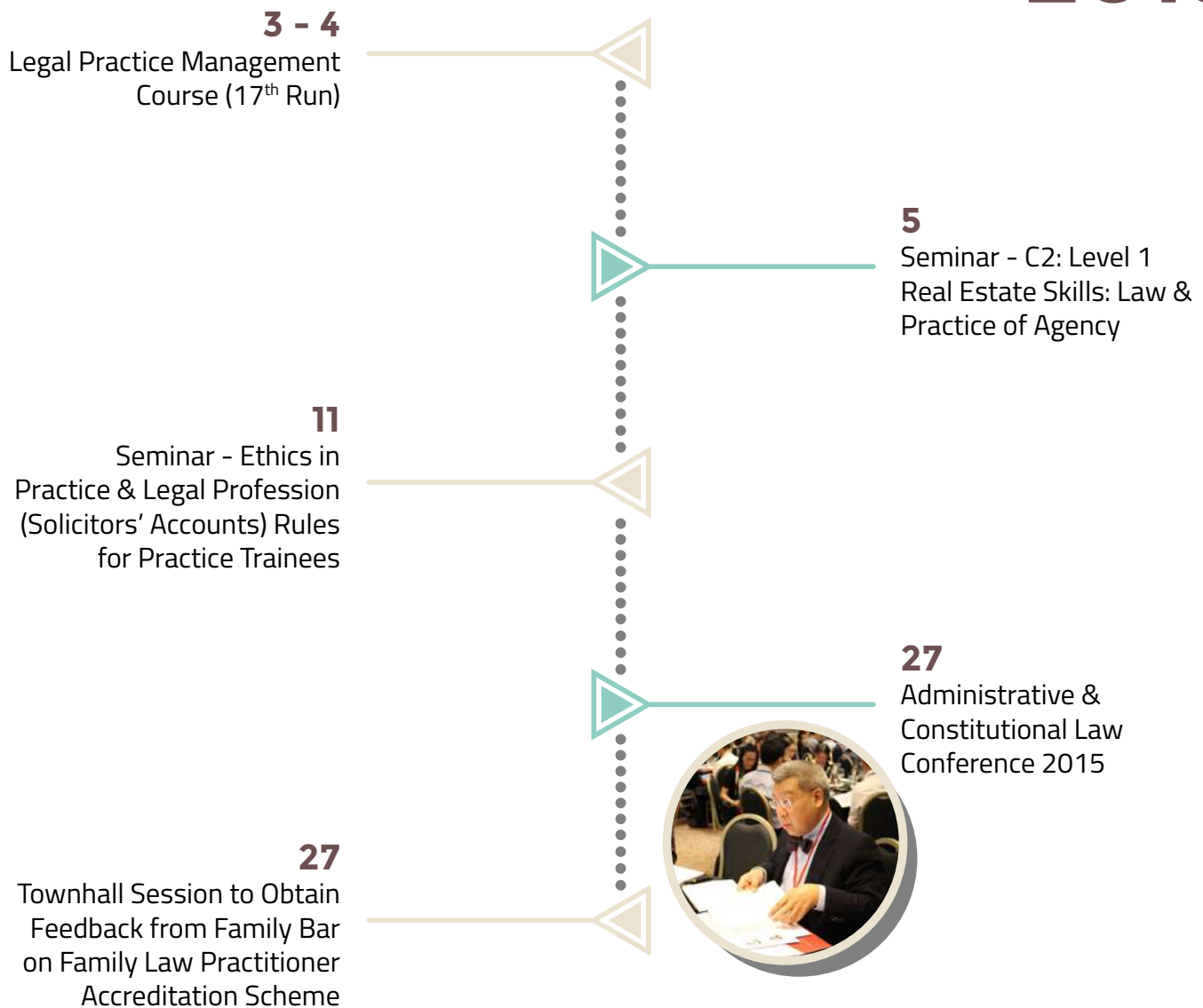
Signing of Memorandum  
of Understanding between  
Law Society of Singapore  
and Korean Bar  
Association



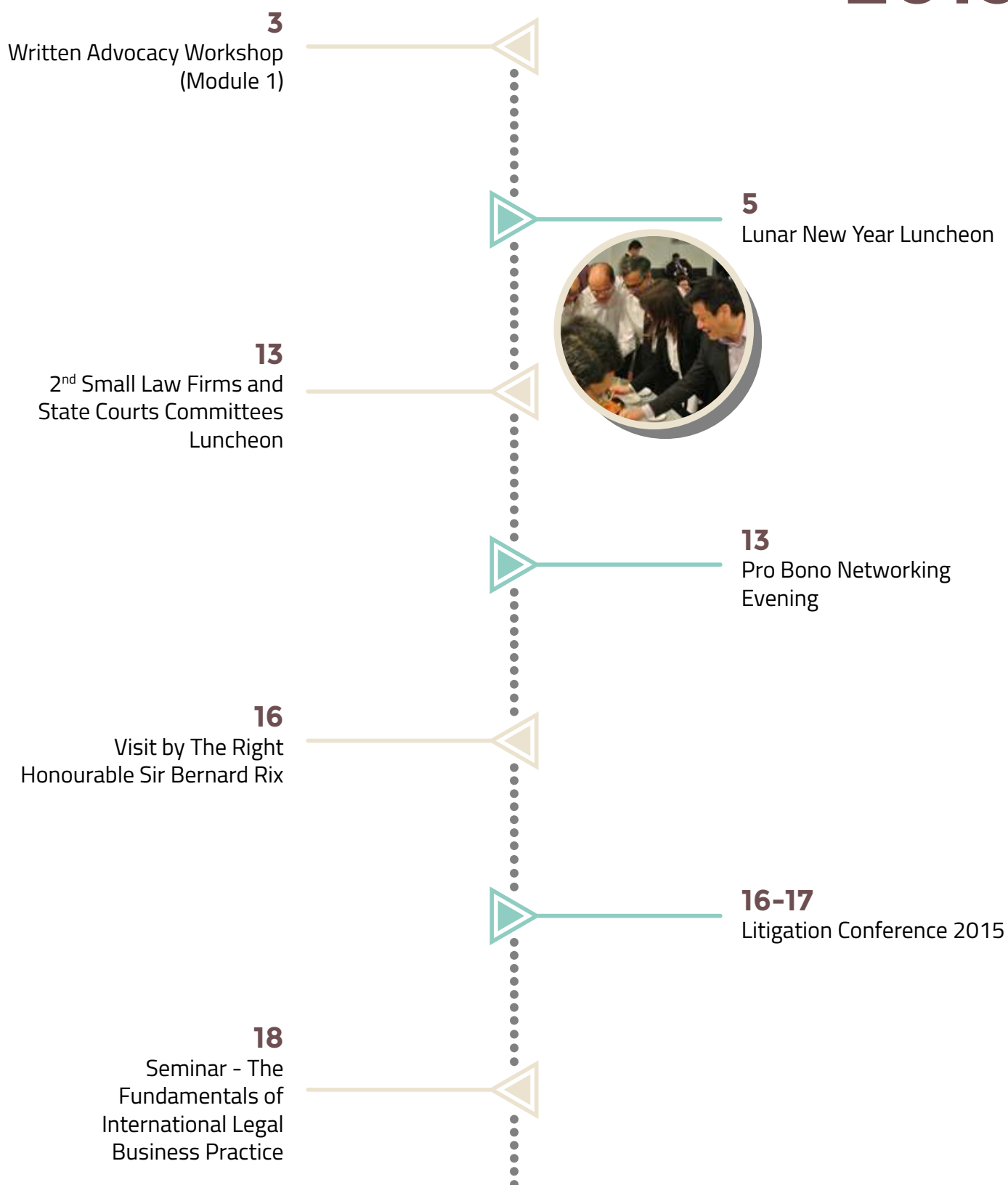
# January 2015



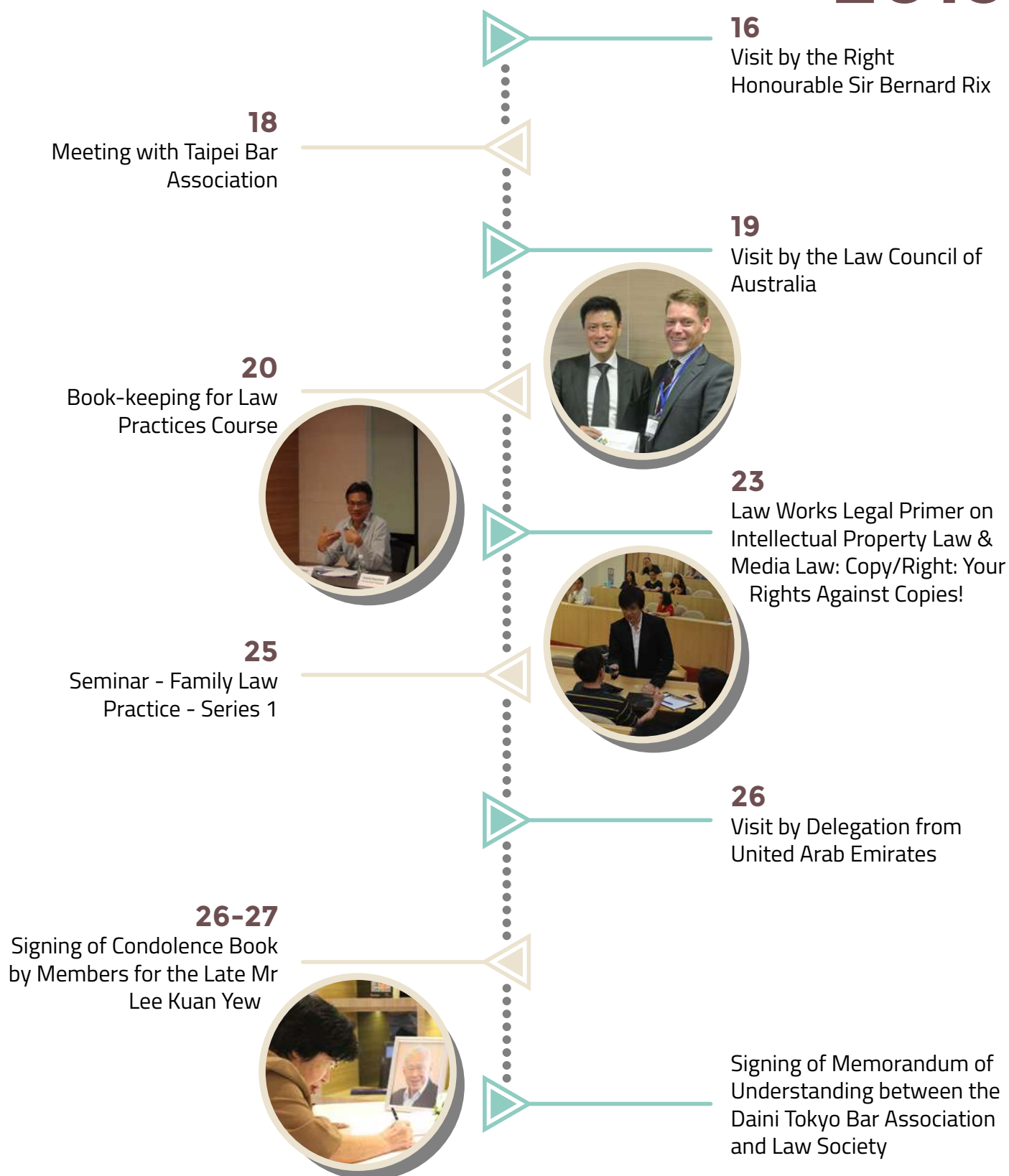
# February 2015



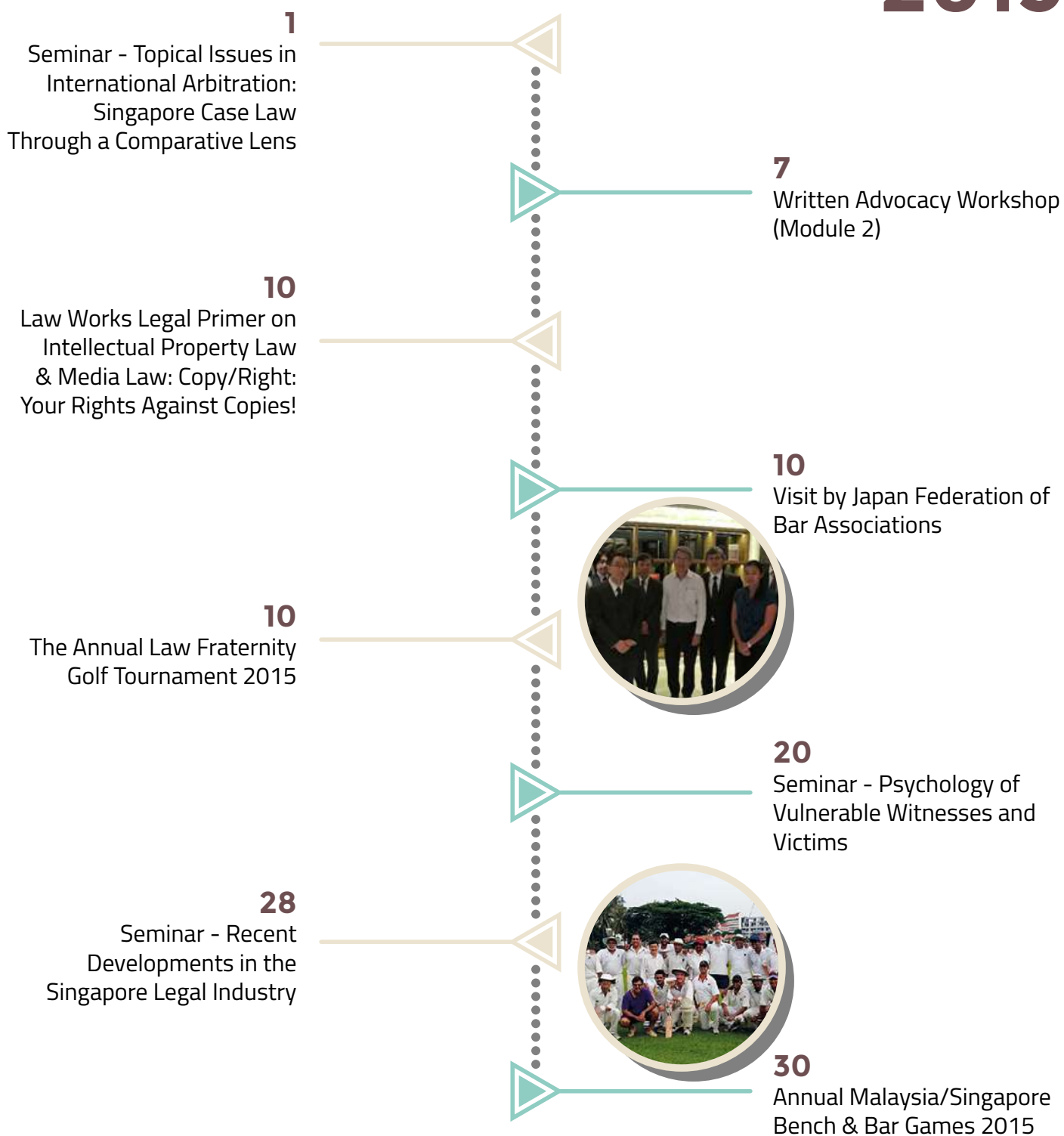
# March 2015

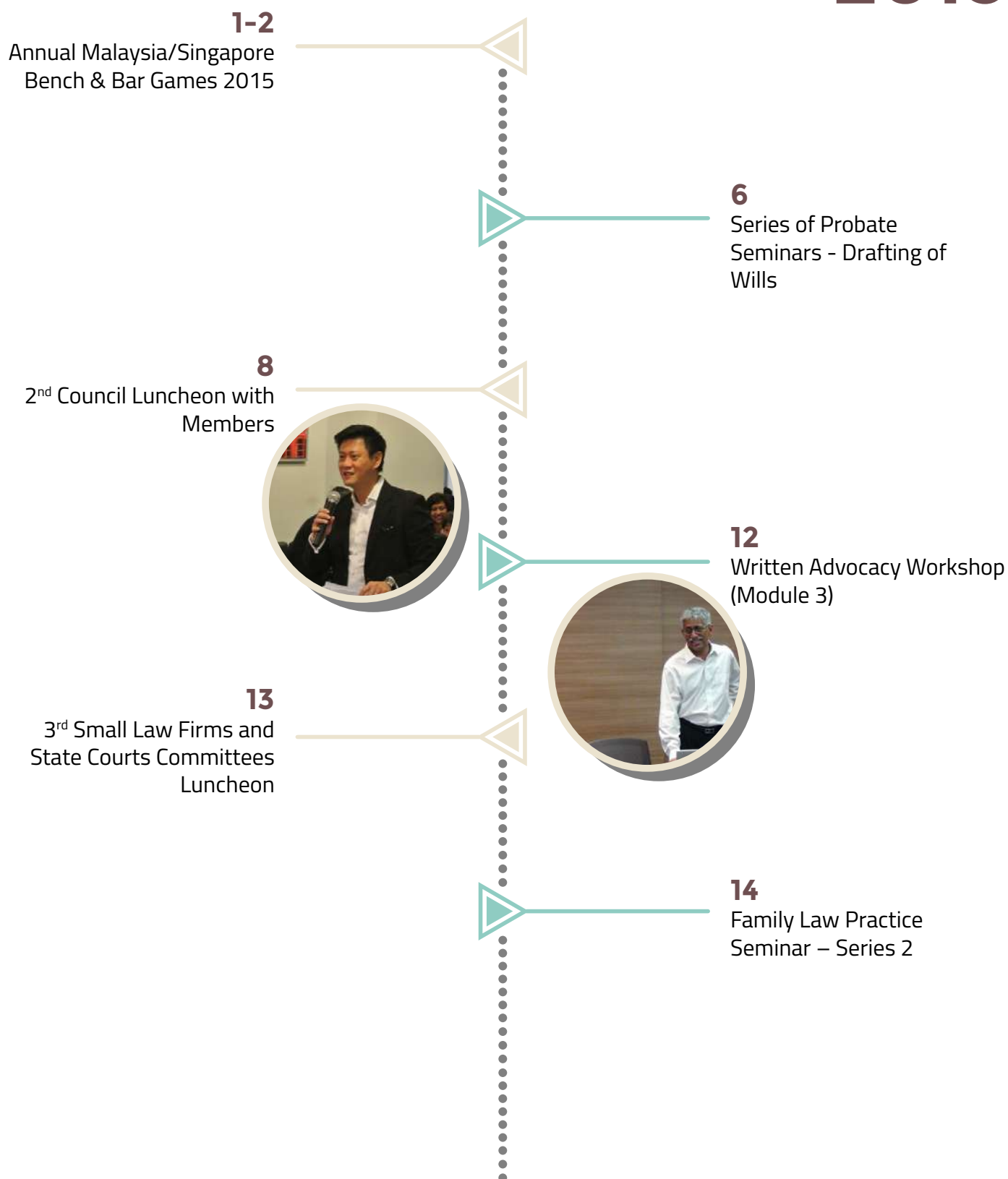


# March 2015

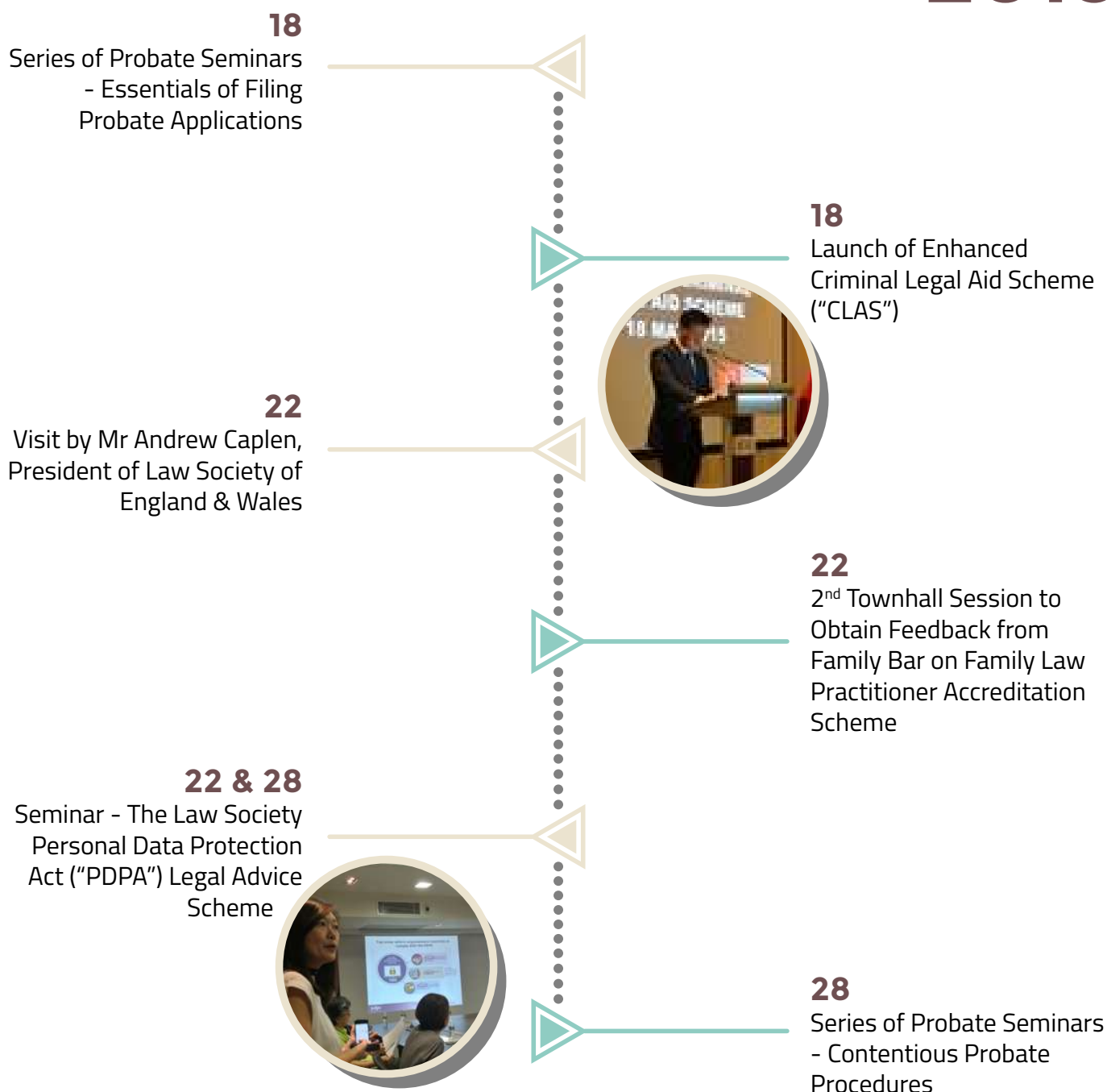


# April 2015

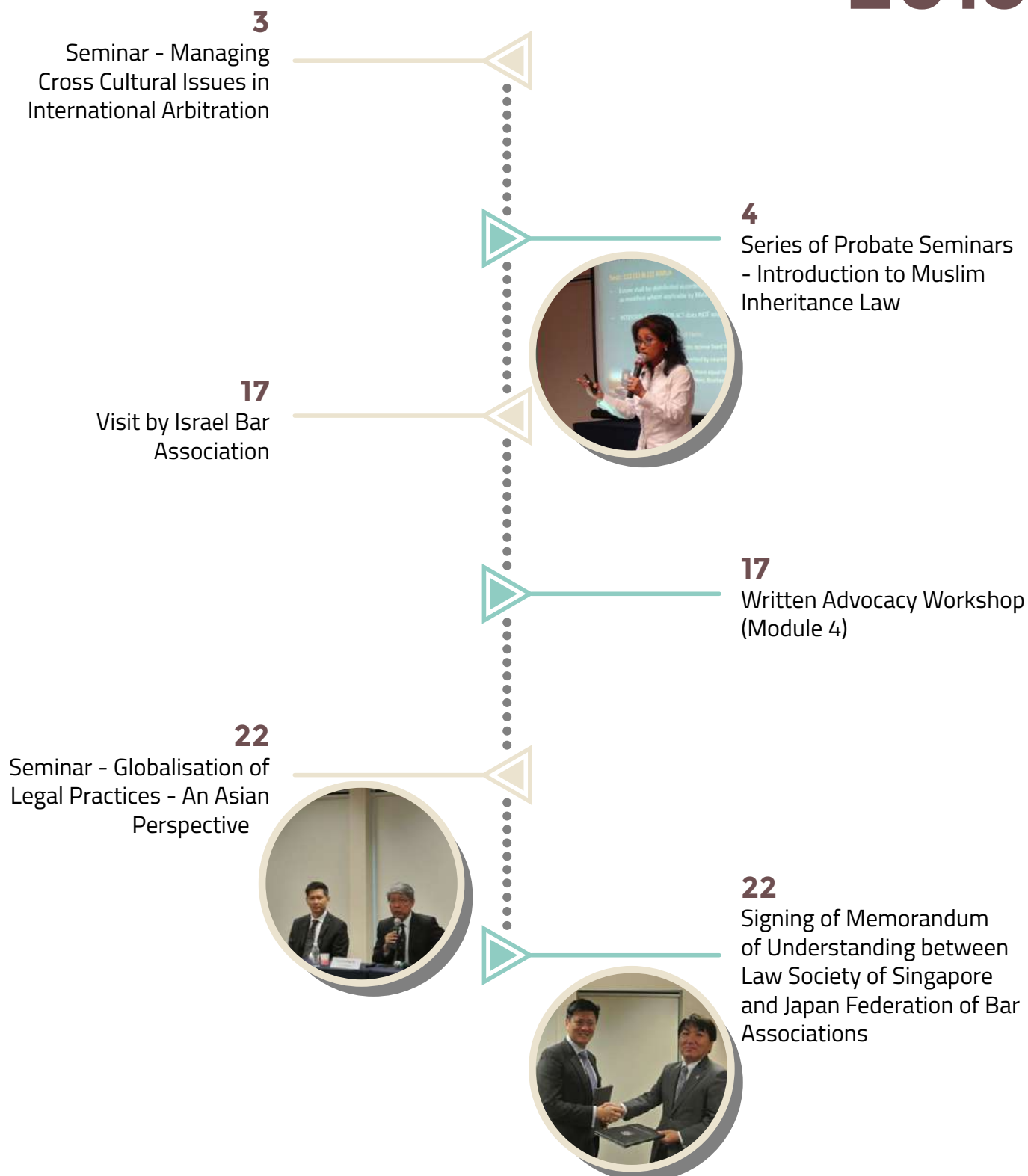


May **2015**

May **2015**

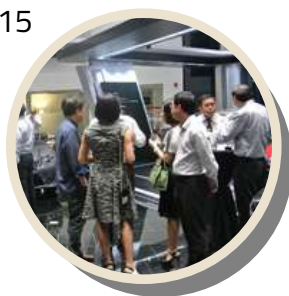


# June 2015



# July 2015

**1**  
Annual Lawyer-Doctor  
Networking Session 2015



**8**  
Hosting of Interns from  
Singapore Academy of  
Law Litigation Internship  
Programme



**11**  
Local Bench & Bar Games  
2015

**13 & 14**  
Seminar - Mediation:  
Strategic Conflict  
Management for  
Professionals (Module 1)

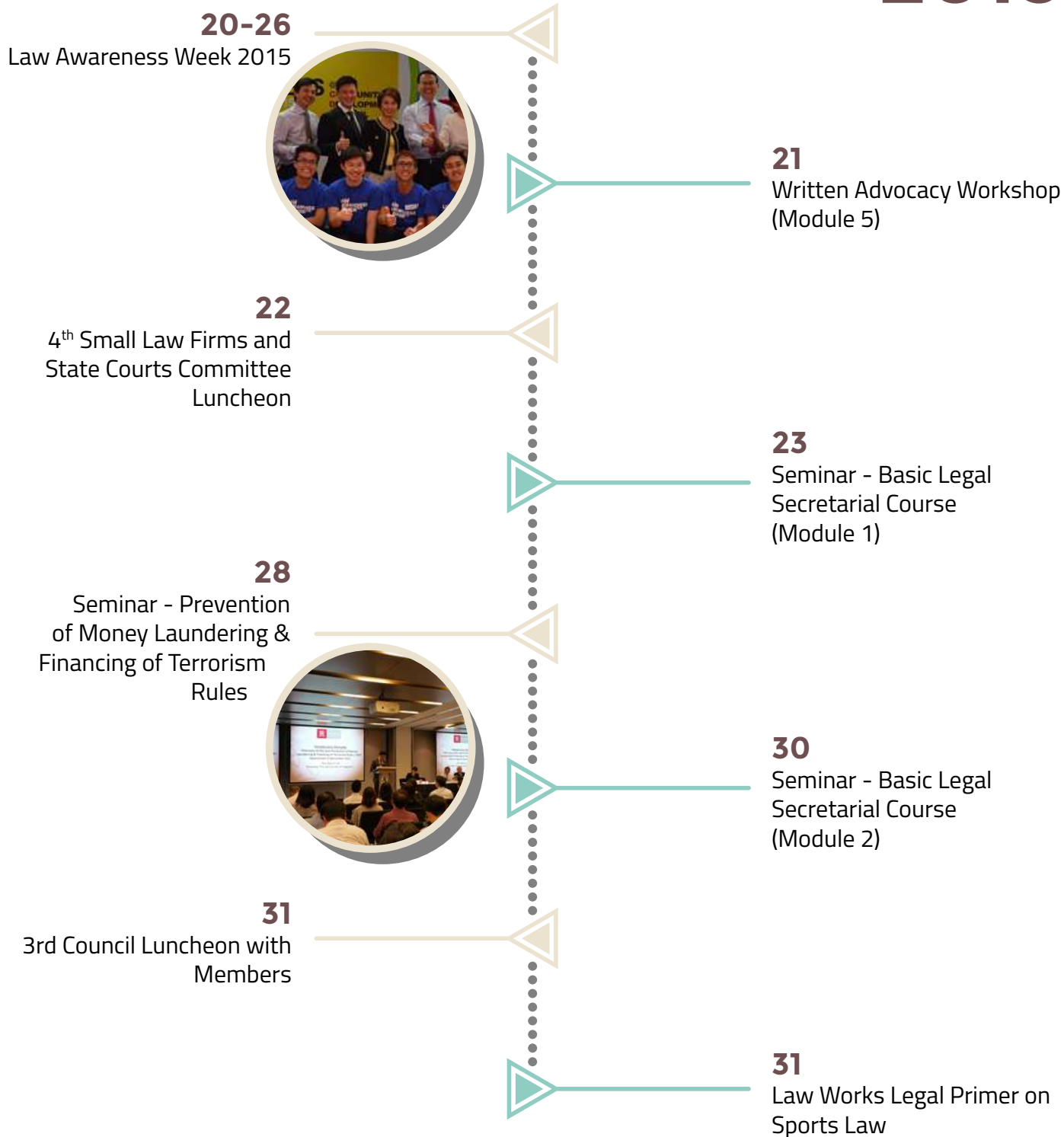
**15**  
Seminar - Mediation:  
Strategic Conflict  
Management for  
Professionals (Module 1)



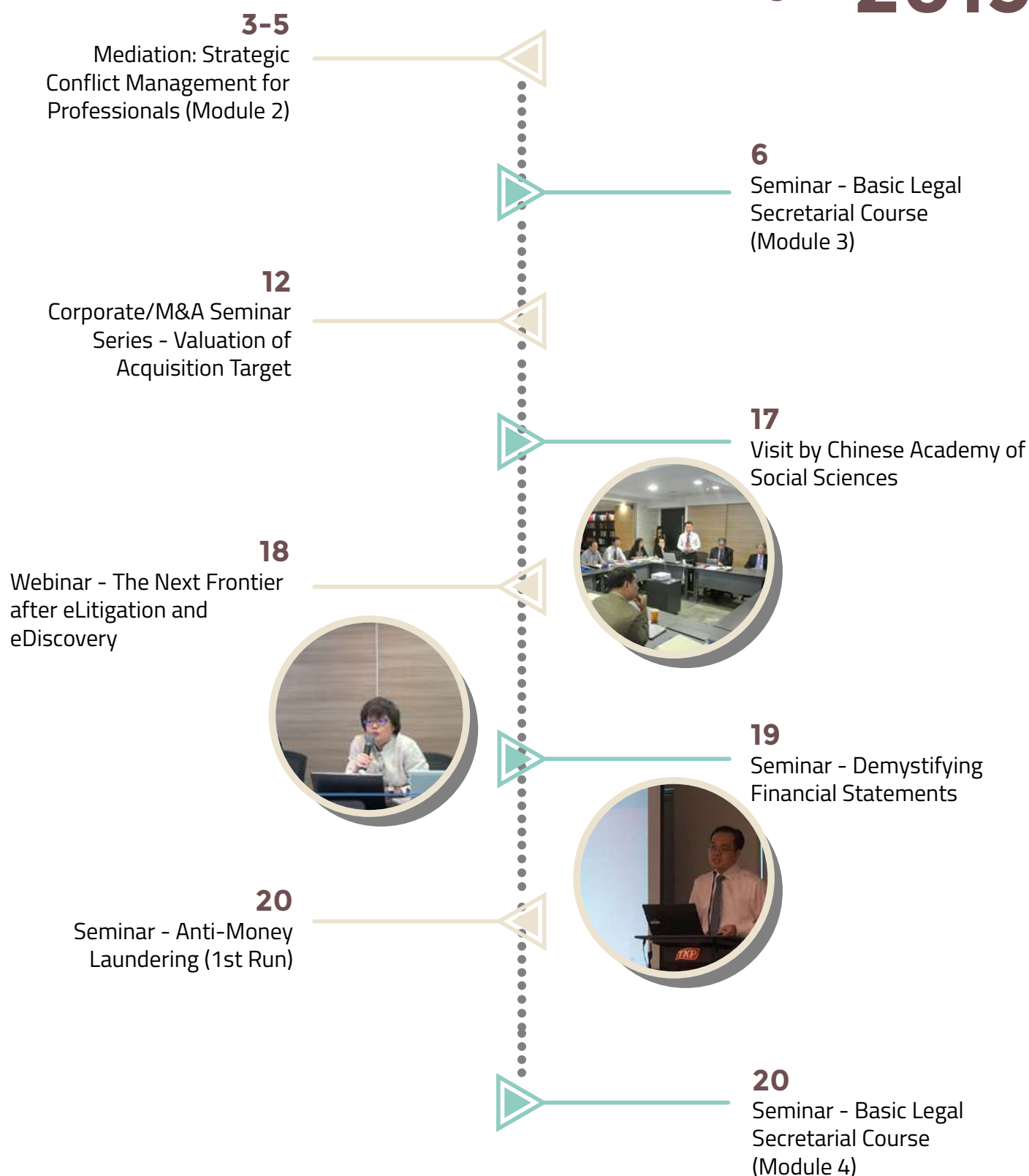
**15**  
Corporate/ M&A Seminar  
Series - Doing Your Due  
Diligence

**16**  
Visit by the Embassy of  
Colombia

# July 2015



# August 2015



August **2015**

**22**  
Mass Call



**28**  
Seminar - Prevention  
of Money Laundering &  
Financing of Terrorism Rules

**31**  
Seminar - Intellectual  
Property Disputes -  
Arbitration or Litigation?

# Statistics

As at 31 August 2015

## Comparison of Size of Law Practices in the Last Five Years

Year	1 to 5 lawyers	6 to 30 lawyers	> 30 lawyers
2011	708	96	17
2012	702	106	19
2013	710	108	20
2014	704	126	18
2015	729	128	22

## Profile of Practitioners

### No. of Practitioners in Last Five Years

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
No. of Practitioners	3,800	4,334	4,486	4,412	4,834

### Years in Practice Based on Date of Admission

Year	< 7 years	7 to 12 years	> 12 years
2015	1,909	423	2,502

### Gender

Year	Male	Female
2015	2767	2067

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**pro bono services**

**Juvenile Court and Maintenance Court Building (1967)**

# 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:

- implement the Law Society's vision and initiatives as to the provision of pro bono legal services in Singapore;
- coordinate the provision of civil, criminal and community pro bono work between the Law Society and other agencies;
- 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;
- identify pro bono opportunities; and
- 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:

- facilitate the recruitment and mobilization of volunteers for pro bono services through:
  - the presentation of a range of pro bono volunteer opportunities catering to different interests, time commitments and legal/practice expertise; and
  - the transfer of skills, know-how and a positive pro bono spirit from senior volunteers to junior volunteers.
- 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.
- 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 (up to 31 December 2014), Mr Kelvin Wong (Treasurer up to 31 December 2014), Mr Gregory Vijayendran and Ms Kuah Boon Theng (member and Treasurer from 1 January 2015 respectively).

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:

- The Law Society of Singapore's General Fund;
- The Ministry of Law;
- The Community Chest Care and Share Grant;
- The National Council of Social Services ("NCSS");
- The National Volunteer & Philanthropy Centre ("NVPC");

- f. The Community Foundation;
- g. The Rajah and Tann Foundation;
- h. The Tote Board;
- i. The National Youth Council; and
- j. Development Bank of Singapore.

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

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

### 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.

## Special Events

Event	Description	Remarks
3 <sup>rd</sup> Asia Pro Bono Conference 2-4 October 2014	<p>The 3rd Annual Asia Pro Bono Conference 2014 co-hosted by the Law Society/PBSO and BABSEA CLE brought together academics, law students, lawyers, judiciary, pro bono professionals, policy makers, civil society and non-profit representatives to consider the manifold ways pro bono initiatives can strengthen access to justice in Southeast Asia and internationally.</p> <p>The theme of the conference was "The Public, Private, People Vision"– Creating vibrant pro bono ecosystems to strengthen access to justice".</p>	<p>The conference attracted more than 300 local and international participants and saw an exciting mix of keynote speeches, panel discussions and interactive workshop sessions. The sessions showcased innovative local and international pro bono programmes and partnerships and provided a unique space for participants to collaborate on improving access to justice for some of the region's most marginalized communities.</p>

Event	Description	Remarks
Justice for All – Just Walk <i>10 January 2015</i>	<p>The Law Society of Singapore held its inaugural Walkathon, Just Walk “Justice on the Move” on 10 January 2015. Approximately 2,000 lawyers, friends from the legal fraternity and the wider community participated in the 5.4km walk past key legal institutions such as the Supreme Court, the State Courts, Attorney-General’s Chambers, Ministry of Law and the Law Society of Singapore, highlighting the community’s belief that fairness and justice are of paramount importance.</p> <p>Participants included, amongst others the Honourable Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon, Attorney-General VK Rajah, Justice Steven Chong, Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy and Judicial Commissioner See Kee Oon. The morning walk concluded with participants giving a long round of applause to celebrate the contributions of the late Subhas Anandan before enjoying a lively concert featuring the talented Abraham Vergis from Providence Law, The Unbillables, a 9-man band from Backer &amp; Mackenzie.Wong &amp; Leow, amongst others.</p>	Just Walk “Justice on the Move” marked a concerted attempt to ensure widening income gap or social divide does not prevent individuals from obtaining adequate legal representation. The walkathon raised more than \$2 million which includes a dollar-for-dollar matching contribution from the Government’s Care and Share grant. The funds raised from the Walkathon will go towards the Society’s Justice for All initiative and will support its outreach work, increase awareness and provide legal representation to those who are in need but are of limited means.
Enhanced Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (“CLAS”) Launch <i>18 May 2015</i>	<p>The Law Society’s enhanced Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (“CLAS”) was officially launched by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law, Mr K Shanmugam, on 18 May 2015.</p> <p>Enhanced CLAS provides 3 tiers of assistance to accused persons (1) information on CLAS; (2) basic legal advice; and (3) representation. The scheme aims to provide assistance to up to 6,000 accused persons per year, a more than tenfold increase from what CLAS is currently serving.</p>	CLAS receives funding from the Government which has allowed for the introduction of honoraria payments for our volunteers.
Law Awareness Week (“LAW”) <i>20 July – 26 July 2015</i>	LAW was a ground-breaking first for legal awareness in Singapore – an inaugural collaboration between the Law Society, Community Development Councils and community organisations to provide legal awareness to the community. Held from July 20 to 26, LAW encompassed more than 30 legal awareness talks for the public throughout Singapore covering a wide range of legal topics including Employment Law, Consumer Protection Law and Advance Planning	LAW also saw the launch and free distribution of the revised Know The Law (“KTL”) booklet through the kind sponsorship of Portcullis Trust (Singapore) Ltd. The KTL booklet is a lay friendly legal guide for members of the public on various topics of Singapore Law relevant to everyday life.

## Main Pro Bono and Volunteer Support Programmes

The following table provides an overview of the Society's main pro bono and volunteer support programmes (number of beneficiaries attended to/served is for the period 1 April 2014–31 March 2015). 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 between the North West, Central, South East and South West Community Development Councils [2,534 registrants, 1,948 attendees]
Civil Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on civil legal proceedings	1 x per week at the State Courts [209 registrants, 156 attendees]
Criminal Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on criminal legal proceedings	1 x per week at the State Courts [352 registrants, 226 attendees]
Criminal Legal Remand Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on criminal legal proceedings for persons in remand	1 x per week at the State Courts [33 registrants, 33 attendees]
Family Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on family legal proceedings	2 x per week at the State Courts [546 registrants, 410 attendees]
Law Works Clinics	Legal clinics focusing on employment legal issues	1 x month at the NTUC [144 registrants, 124 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 lawyers, social service or government agencies only. [42 applications, 21 assignments]
Criminal Legal Aid Scheme	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 care givers 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. The latest version was published in July 2015 through the kind sponsorship of Portcullis Trust (Singapore) Ltd	Free download from PBSO website
General Legal Awareness for Non-profit Organisations and Social Enterprises		
Charity Information Portal	This section of the Pro Bono Services Office website is a project by the Law Society to provide legal information for Singapore non-profit community organisations. The content is contributed by members of the Project Law Help Committee and its working sub-committee including students from the NUS Faculty of Law	On going
LegaleSE, a legal toolkit for Social Enterprises (sponsored by DBS and the National Youth Council)	The "LegaleSE" toolkit was produced as part of a law awareness project to assist budding social entrepreneurs with key legal information to set up and operate a social enterprise,	On going
Legal Assistance for Non-Profit Organisations		
Community Organisation Clinics	General legal, accounting and human resource advice for non-profit organisations	Held at a time that matches Applicant and volunteer law practice @ PBSO offices. 62 Applications, 33 Matches, 33 Clinics
Project Law Help	Corporate legal assistance for non-profit organisations undertaking community work within Singapore	Assignment of volunteer law practice upon successful application. 11 Requests, 6 Applications, 6 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. 8 Applications, 6 Matches
<b>Volunteer Support</b>		
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
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 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

### 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
Appropriate Adult Control Centre	To assist communication between a police officer and a person suspected of having intellectual/mental disability by a trained person known as an Appropriate Adult.	On 1 January 2015 PBSO launched an island wide pilot of a 24 hour Appropriate Adult Control Centre ("AACC") to serve all police land divisions. The AACC deploys Appropriate Adults upon request by the police to assist with police interviews of persons with suspected intellectual/ mental disability
Ministry of Social and Family Development ("MSF") Family Legal Toolkit	To assist social workers with awareness of the types of legal issues arising from matrimonial/ family issues which may impact a family unit	PBSO assisted to coordinate the legal content of the toolkit which was published by MSF in 2014
MSF/National Council for Problem Gambling ("NCPG") Legal and Financial Advisory Services Toolkit	To assist social workers with awareness of the types of legal issues arising from problem gambling which may impact a gambler/ family members	PBSO assisted to coordinate the legal content for the toolkit which has been piloted for use at Family Service Centres. NCPG will be publishing key elements from the toolkit into a "pocket guide" for distribution to Family Service Centre Clients

### 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
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 State 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 State Courts

Migrant Worker Centre ("MWC")	Legal clinics for foreign workers (inaugural session held on Saturday 18 January 2014)	PBSO provides the following support: (a) the sharing of PBSO materials including the Community Legal Clinic manual and our clinic forms for the use/adaptation by the MWC; (b) technical assistance including the training/attachment stints of MWC staff on legal clinic administration and procedures; (c) highlighting to our volunteer practitioner pool legal clinic volunteer opportunities with MWC; and (d) volunteer mobilisation and coordination.
F.A.S.T. (Foreign Domestic Worker Association for Social Support and Training)	Legal clinics for foreign domestic workers (inaugural session held on Sunday 23 November 2014)	PBSO provides the same scope of support as outlined above for the Migrant Worker Centre
H.O.M.E. (Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics)	Legal clinics for foreign workers (inaugural session held on 23 May 2014)	PBSO provides the same scope of support as outlined above for the Migrant Worker Centre
U-Care Centre	Legal clinics for low wage workers (inaugural session held on 29 April 2015)  The U-Care Legal Clinic is a collaboration between PBSO and U-Care Centre ("UCC"), an initiative by the National Trade Union Congress ("NTUC") to support low wage workers in Singapore. As a one-stop centre, UCC provides low-wage workers with guidance on work-related issues and opportunities to help them earn a better living	PBSO provides the same scope of support as outlined above for the Migrant Worker Centre
Project X	Part of our Street Smart collaboration providing sex workers with legal advice and awareness (inaugural session held on 1 April 2015)	

Aware's Sexual Assault Care Centre	Legal clinic advice to victims of sexual abuse attending Aware's Sexual Assault Care Centre for counselling	PBSO supports the collaboration with volunteer mobilisation and coordination
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 provides the same scope of support as outlined above for the Migrant Worker Centre

### Outreach Talks and Events

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

Organisation	Date	Outreach
Singapore Human Resources Institute	15 September 2014	Practical Steps towards Social Entrepreneurship
Art Wok (Nee Soon South)	19 September 2014	Both Sides Now: Living with Dying (Sharing on end of life issues) - Mandarin
Art Wok (Nee Soon South)	20 September 2014	Both Sides Now: Living with Dying (Sharing on end of life issues) - English
Art Wok (Toa Payoh Central)	28 September 2014	Both Sides Now: Living with Dying (Sharing on end of life issues) - Mandarin
CHIJ St Theresa's Convent	23 October 2014	Sharing on Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences
CHIJ St Theresa's Convent	23 October 2014	Sharing on Domestic Violence and Sexual Offences
Jurongville Secondary School	24 October 2014	Youth Related Offences
Kaki Bukit Community Club	26 October 2014	Sharing Session on Wills
Bible Church	2 November 2014	All About Wills
Social Service Institute	4 November 2014	Talk on Employment Act
NTUC Centre - 1 Marina Boulevard	5 November 2014	LawWorks- Appreciation Dinner
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	12 November 2014	Ethics Law & Healthcare Module
Bedok Lutheran Church	22 November 2014	LPA and Wills
NTUC LawWorks	27 November 2014	LawWorks Legal Primer 4 of 2014 - Insolvency & U
Church of True Light	29 January 2015	Making of Wills
Alice Lee Centre for Nursing Studies, NUS Medicine	6 February 2015	The Law & The Elderly (Workshop for Master of Nursing Students)
10 SQ @Orchard Central	26 February 2015	Dialogue on Social Entrepreneurship

Down Syndrome Association	28 February 2015	Employment Act and How it May Apply to People with Down's Syndrome
Singapore Association for the Deaf	6 March 2015	LawCares - Legal Aid services to the Deaf Community
Queenstown Lutheran Church	18 March 2015	Understanding Wills and LPAs
Millenia Institute	1 April 2015	Internet Copyright Issues and Plagiarism
NTUC LawWorks	10 April 2015	LawWorks Legal Primer 1 of 2015 - Copyright Law
APSN Delta Senior School	10 April 2015	What to Do if Our Child Gets into "Trouble"?
Hong Kah North Community Club	12 April 2015	Will Writing and Lasting Power of Attorney
The Hub Singapore	24 April 2015	Law Cares - Co Founder Agreements, Equity Structure
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	27 April 2015	Implications of the Law in Nursing
Anglican High School	15 May 2015	Legal Career Talk at Anglican High
Whispering Hearts Family Service Centre	16 May 2015	Cyberbullying and Protection from Harassment Act
AWWA Centre for Caregivers	23 May 2015	All about Wills
Good Shepherd Place	11 June 2015	Human Trafficking Act
Hong Kah North Community Club	14 June 2015	All about Wills & Lasting Power of Attorney (in partnership with the OPG)
Jurong Central CO @ Jurong Green Community Club	5 July 2015	Criminal Law
Yuhua Community Club	12 July 2015	Consumer Protection Law
Independent Archives	15 July 2015	Artists' Out-of-Bounds Markers
Tampines Changkat Community Club	19 July 2015	Consumer Protection Law
Boon Lay Community Club	21 July 2015	Property Law
Radin Mas Community Club	22 July 2015	Criminal Law
Punggol Meridian RC	22 July 2015	Advance Planning
Boon Lay Community Club	22 July 2015	Advance Planning
Changi Simei Community Club	24 July 2015	Protection from Harassment Act
Singapore Youth Ambassadors	24 July 2015	Legal Career Talk
Chong Pang Wellness Centre	24 July 2015	Advance Planning
Zhenghua Community Club	24 July 2015	Employment Law
Sunlove Senior Activity Centre	25 July 2015	Advance Planning
Radin Mas Community Club	25 July 2015	Family Law

Woodgrove Community Club	25 July 2015	Consumer Protection Law
Woodgrove Community Club	25 July 2015	Protection from Harassment Act
Woodgrove Community Club	25 July 2015	Advance Planning
Woodgrove Community Club	25 July 2015	Protection from Harassment Act
Katong Community Club	25 July 2015	Advance Planning
Choa Chu Kang Community Club	26 July 2015	Criminal Law
Senja-Cashew Community Club	26 July 2015	Advance Planning
Changi Simei Community Club	26 July 2015	Consumer Protection Law
Canberra Community Club	26 July 2015	Family Law
Zhenghua Community Club	26 July 2015	Advance Planning
Kampong Glam Community Club	30 July 2015	Advance Planning
Kampong Glam Community Club	30 July 2015	Advance Planning
National Council of Social Services	30 July 2015	Advance Planning (Mental Health Capacity Act)
Toa Payoh West Community Club	2 August 2015	Advance Planning
Silver Ace Senior Activity Centre @ Whampoa	5 August 2015	Advance Planning
NTUC LawWorks	31 July 2015	LawWorks Legal Primer 2 of 2015 - Sports Law
Senja-Cashew Community Club	23 August 2015	Property Law
Feng Shan Community Club	23 August 2015	All about Wills
SG Enable	24 August 2015	Employment Act

### Support and Participation in Regional Pro Bono Conferences and Briefings to Overseas Delegations by PBSO/PBSO Volunteer Representatives

Event	Description	Speaker/Panellist/Facilitator for
Workshop on advocacy knowledge and skills for legal aid lawyers in Indonesia 22 – 24 August 2014	3 day legal aid training workshop organised by PBSO and the Indonesian Legal Aid Foundation ("YLBHI") in Semarang, Central Java	Classes covering criminal and civil procedure, evidence rules, advocacy skills and pro bono/legal aid programmes in Singapore
3rd Asia Pro Bono Conference 2-4 October 2014	Please see above under "Special Events"	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Role of Bar Associations in Supporting Pro Bono</li> <li>▪ Pro Bono Coordination</li> <li>▪ Clearing-house Systems</li> <li>▪ Public-Private-People Partnership Case Studies</li> </ul>

2nd PILNET Asia Pro Bono Forum, Bangkok 23-24 June 2015	The PILNET Asia Pro Bono Forum, is a leading platform that convenes lawyers, law schools, bar associations, NGO representatives, and policy makers in order to provide a regional perspective on pro bono practice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pro Bono Clearing House workshop</li> <li>Pro Bono Development in Southeast Asia</li> <li>Role of Bar Associations in Growing Pro Bono and Supporting Access to Justice</li> </ul>
Visit to the Law Society by Participants in the 2nd Judicial Governance Programme 30 July 2015	PBSO conducted a briefing and overview on legal aid and pro bono in Singapore	
Visit to the Law Society by the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences 17 August 2015	PBSO conducted a briefing and overview on legal aid and pro bono in Singapore	
Visit to the Law Society by the Office of the Attorney-General, Bhutan 21 August 2015	PBSO conducted a briefing and overview on legal aid and pro bono in Singapore	
Visit to the Law Society by the Sri Lanka Bar Delegation 31 August 2015	PBSO conducted a briefing and overview on legal aid and pro bono in Singapore	

## Media

PBSO volunteers and/or cases were featured in the following television shows:

Programme	Synopsis	Remarks
The Verdict	"Verdict" is a Channel 5 criminal docu-drama series that dramatizes the legal process and police investigation of some of CLAS' most provocative and interesting cases. The series shows audiences the intricacies of the legal and investigative process, and reveals the compassionate side of lawyers and the justice system	Past episodes of the Verdict can be viewed online at <a href="http://www.toggle.sg">www.toggle.sg</a>
Second Chance	The Channel U drama series "Second Chance" highlights the good work of pro bono lawyers. The series has been inspired by the life and work of CLAS volunteer and former Law Society Pro Bono Ambassador Mr Josephus Tan	Past episodes of Second Chance can be viewed online at <a href="http://www.toggle.sg">www.toggle.sg</a>

### Annual Pro Bono Hour Survey of Practising Lawyers

To obtain fuller information on the pro bono commitment of members, the Law Society had 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"). New practice rules were, however, introduced from 1 March 2015 providing for the mandatory reporting of pro bono hours for lawyers applying for a practising certificate (Legal Profession (Mandatory Reporting of Specified Pro Bono Services) Rules 2015).

Please see the following tables for a summary of the survey results:

<b>Number of Lawyers Declaring Pro Bono Hours</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
No. who declared zero pro bono hours	2,530	2,569	2,534	2,471	1,266	2,886
No. who declared some pro bono hours	1,034	1,168	1,177	1,343	1,494	2,479
No. who did not declare pro bono hours	0	24	22	193	1,744	587
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,564</b>	<b>3,761</b>	<b>3,733</b>	<b>4,007</b>	<b>4,454</b>	<b>5,952</b>
No. contributing at least 25 pro bono hours per annum	331	414	431	469	519	646
<b>Number of Pro Bono Hours</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Total number of pro bono hours declared	35,634	45,094	45,247	53,766	66,743	68,256
Ave. number of pro bono hours / lawyer	10	12	12	13	15	13

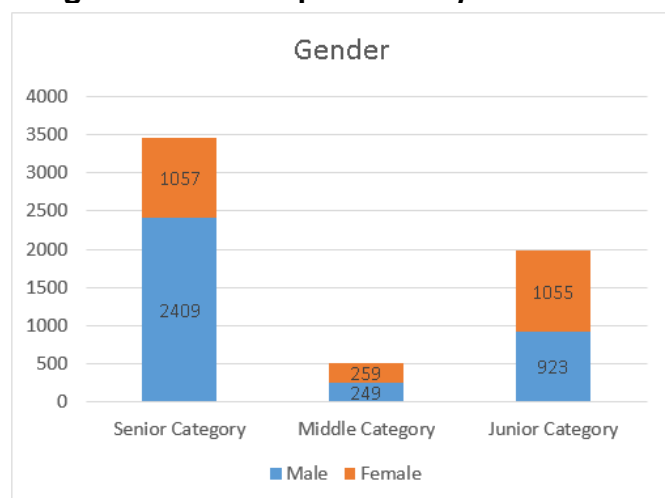
### Additional Charity Information

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, wef 1 January 2008), Mr George Lim, SC, Advocate and Solicitor (wef 1 January 2008), Mr N Sreenivasan, SC, Advocate and Solicitor, (wef 1 January 2008), Ms Malathi Das, Advocate and Solicitor, (wef 1 January 2008), Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC, Advocate and Solicitor, (22 January 2009–31 December 2014), Mr Gregory Vijayendran, Advocate and Solicitor, (wef 1 January 2013, Treasurer up to 31 December 2014), Ms Kuah Boon Theng, Advocate and Solicitor, (wef 1 January 2015, Treasurer with effect 1 January 2015).
Key Position Holder	Lim Tanguy Yuteck, Director of Pro Bono Services (wef 1 August 2007)

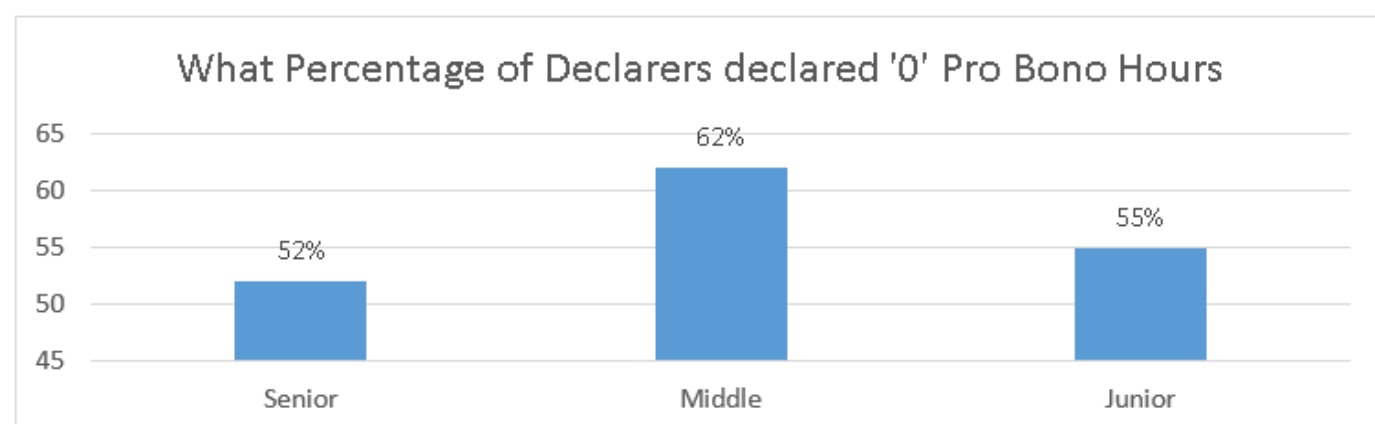
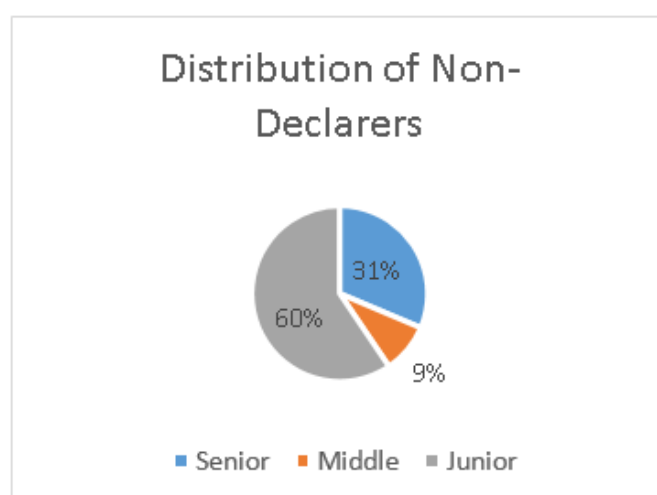
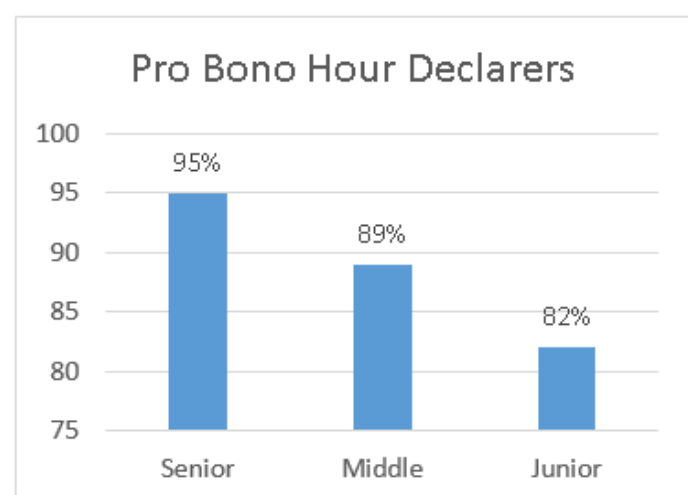
Principal Bankers	OCBC Bank, Bank of East Asia
Independent Auditor	Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Related Entity Particulars	<p>The Law Society of Singapore ("LSS")</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mr Kelvin Wong (Vice-President LSS Council)</li> <li>2. Mr Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President, LSS Council)</li> <li>3. Ms Kuah Boon Theng (Treasurer, LSS Council)</li> </ol>
Principal Funding Sources of the Charity	<p>The Law Society of Singapore's General Fund</p> <p>The Ministry of Law</p> <p>Tote Board</p>
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	<p>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</p>

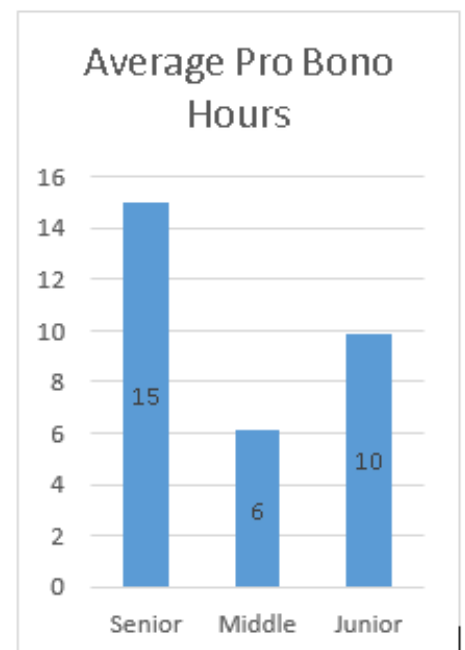
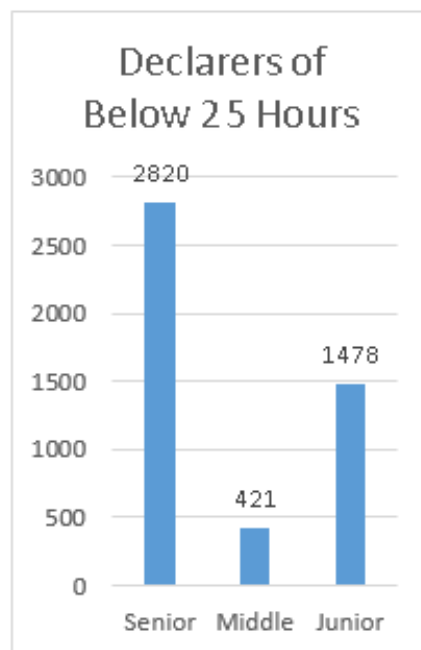
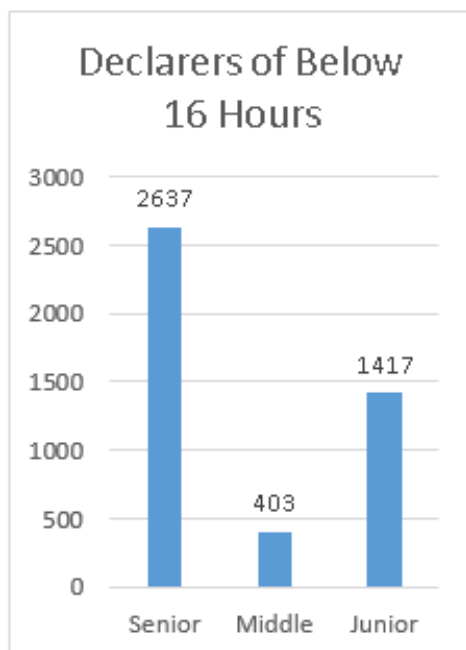
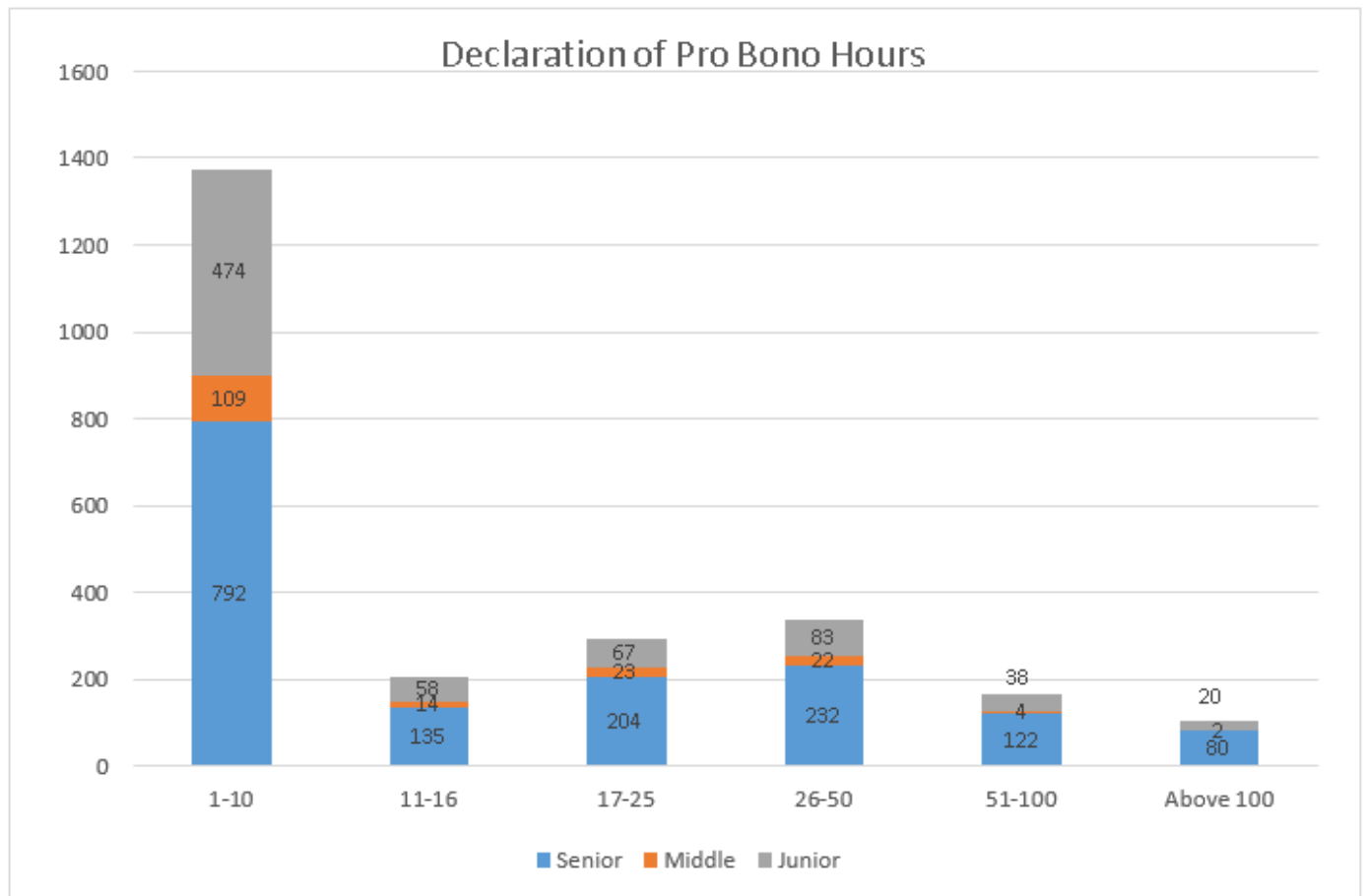
## Annexure A

### Categorisation of Respondents by Gender

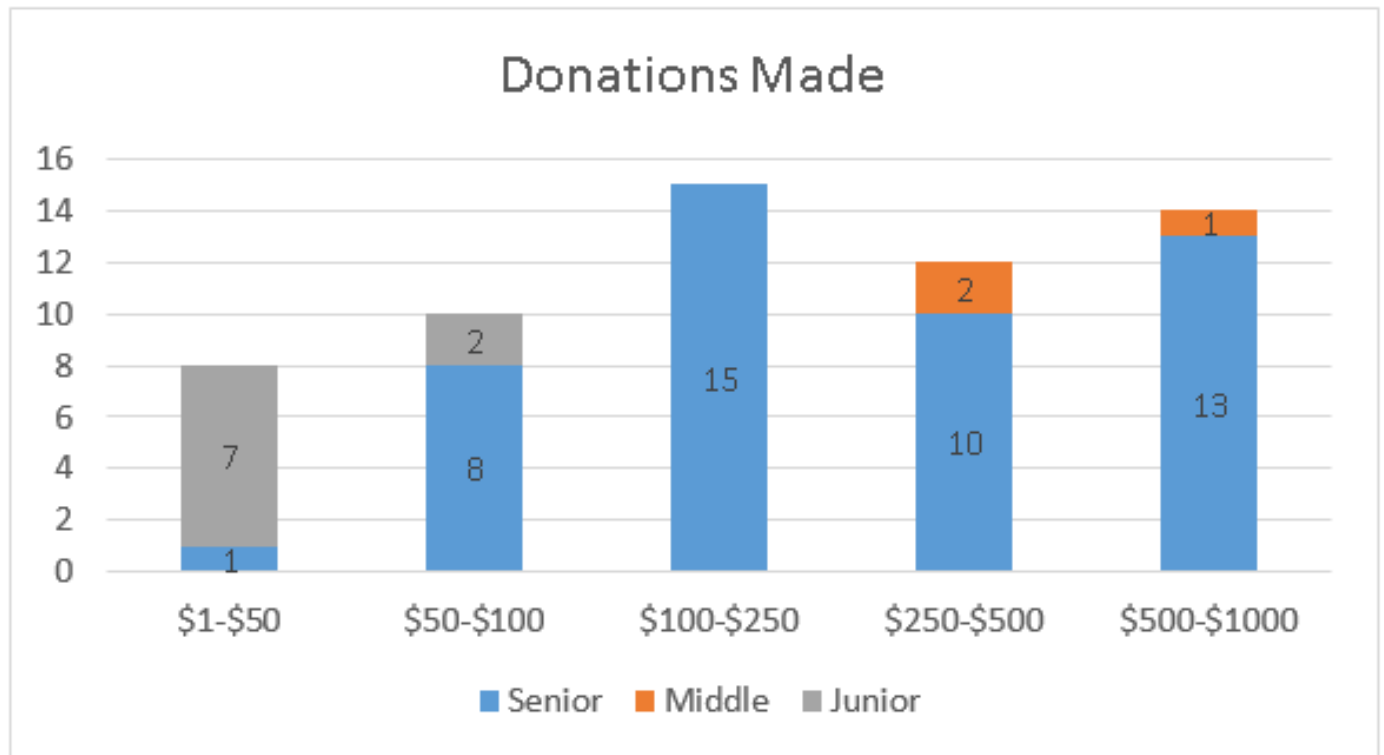


### Pro Bono Hours

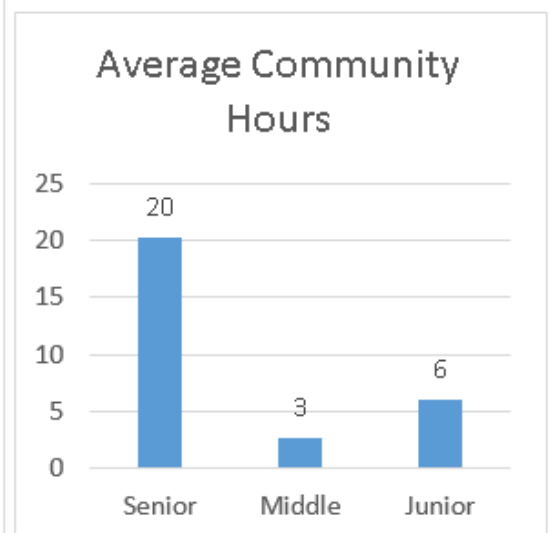
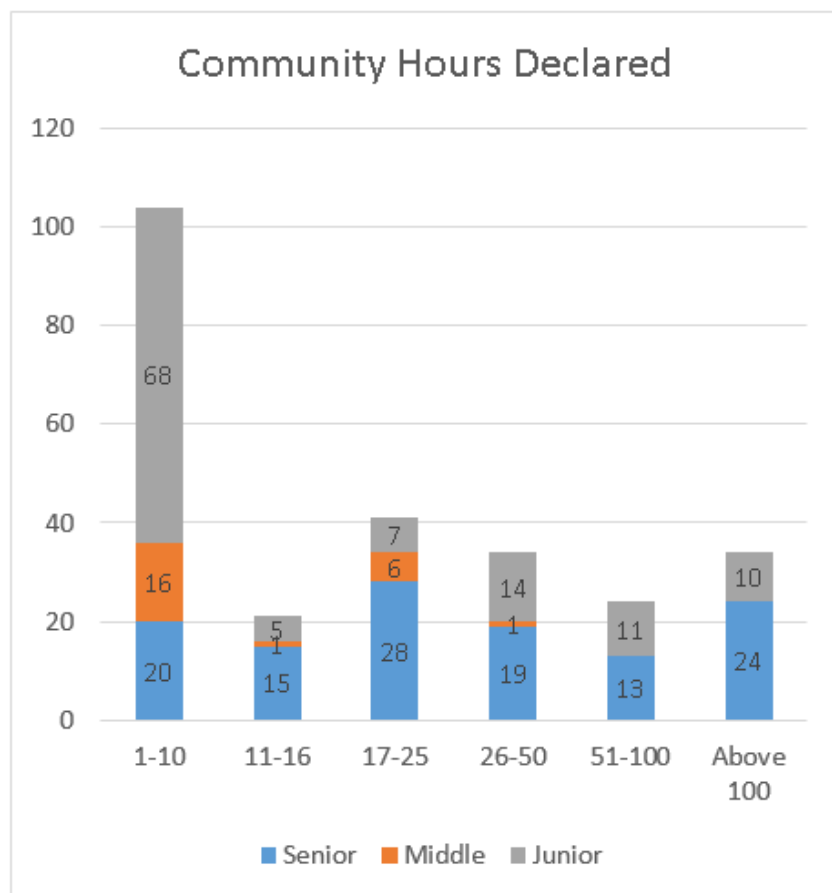




## Donations

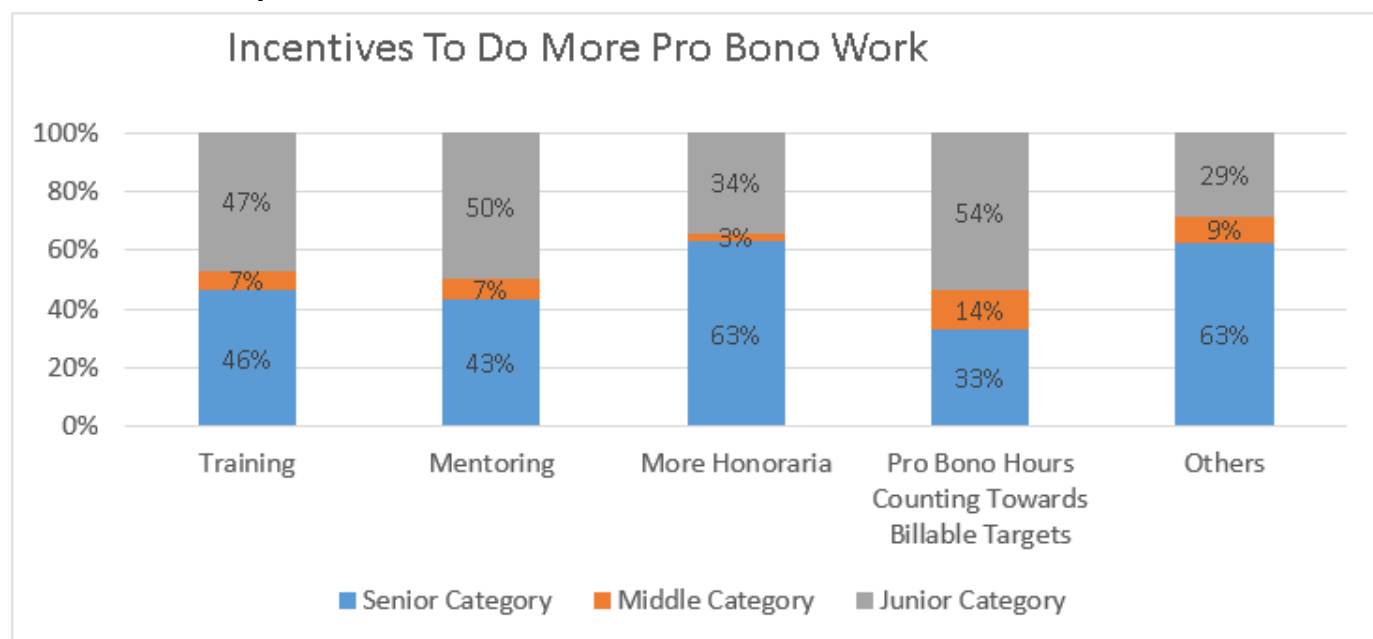


## Community Hours

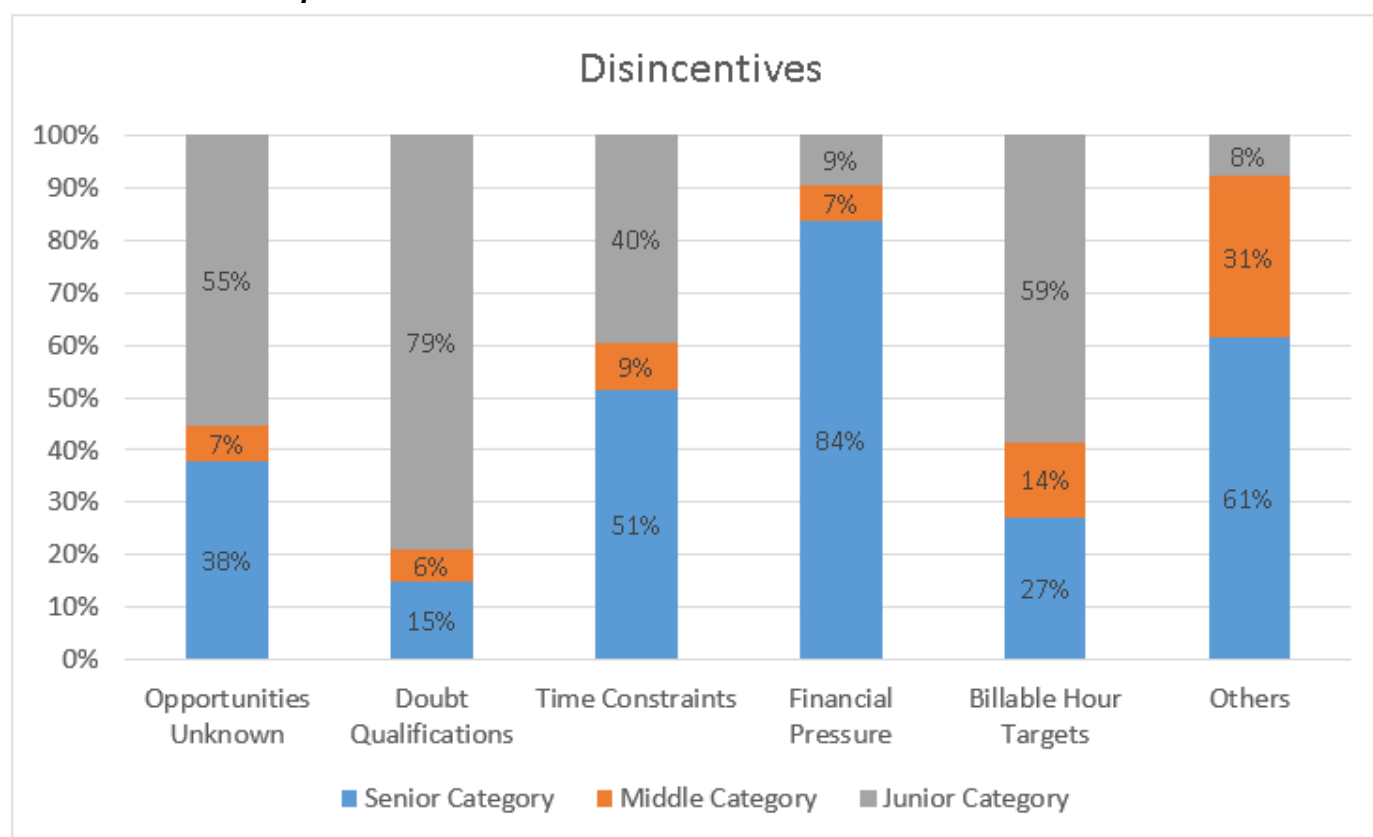


## Annexure B

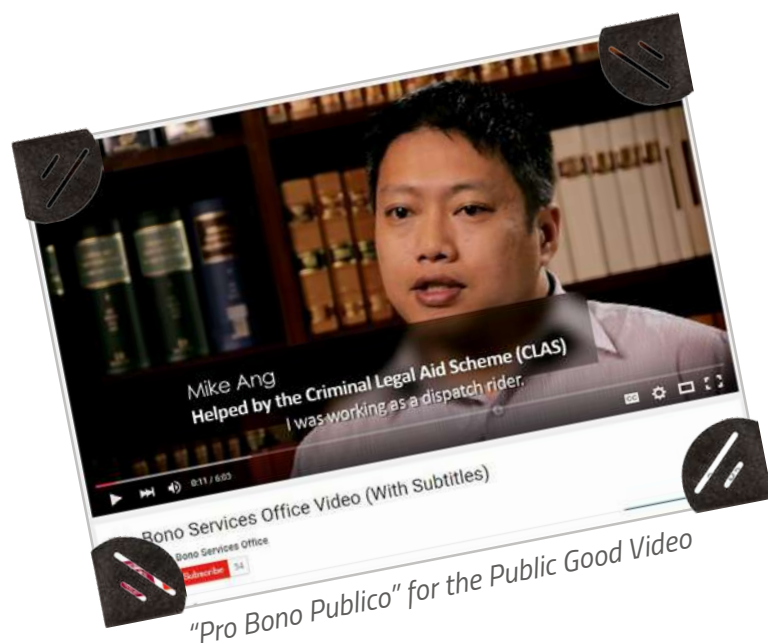
### Incentives for Lawyers to Do More Pro Bono Work



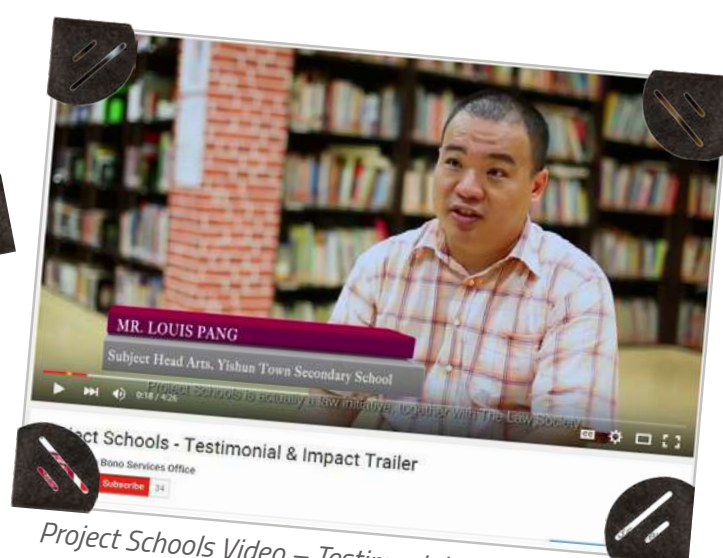
### Disincentives for Lawyers to Do More Pro Bono Work



Category	Details
Lawyers in Junior Category	Below 7 years of experience
Lawyers in Middle Category	Above/Equal to 7 and below 12 years of experience
Lawyers in Senior Category	12 and above years of experience



"Pro Bono Publico" for the Public Good Video



Project Schools Video – Testimonials & Impact Trailer



Justice for All - Just Walk on 10 January 2015



# Community Legal Clinics

*Cyril Chua, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Chua Yeow Hooi Cyril - Chairperson  
 Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran - Council Representative  
 Arivanantham Krishnan  
 Cheah Saing Chong  
 Choy Wing Kin Montague  
 Gavin Ng Ren Zhang  
 Kuah Boon Theng  
 Lam Kuet Keng Steven  
 Rey Foo Jong Han  
 Sean La'Brooy  
 Tan Kok Heng Leroy Solomon  
 Seet Pek Hian Harold

## Secretariat Representative

Lim Tanguy

The Community Legal Clinic Committee was formed in August 2014 to oversee the implementation of the Community Legal Clinics Expansion Plan. The members of this committee include volunteer lawyers who have been and/or who are still actively volunteering with the Community Legal Clinics.

The expansion of the Community Legal Clinic network was planned in 2 phases:



## Phase 1

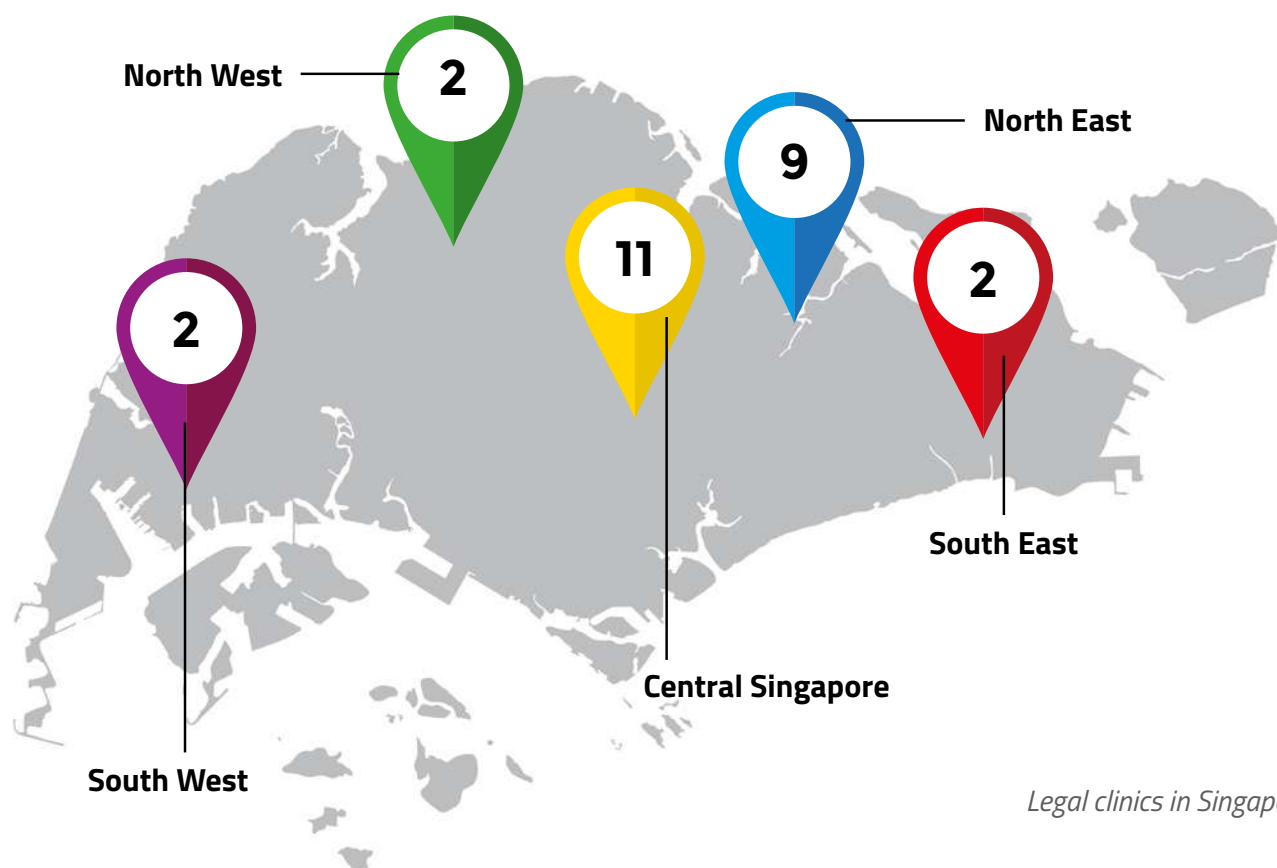
This phase would involve only a re-allocation of resources as the plan was to hold one legal clinic on any one night (Mondays to Thursdays) at 4 CDCs, namely north west, south east, central Singapore and south west. Each of these clinics would then be designated the Community Legal Hub for each district. This was completed by end September 2014.

North east district has mature clinics and it was decided that one of the existing clinics would be designated the north east Community Legal Hub.

In support of this expansion, a Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") was signed between the Mayor's Committee and the Law Society of Singapore on 12 September 2014 to formalise the collaboration.



## Phase 2



This phase would involve bringing all the existing “satellite” clinics held at CCs/Community Clubs around the island into the network through the adoption of our clinic manual and the introduction of “best practices” into each clinic across the network.

A briefing was held on 13 August 2014 for clinics who would be interested to join the network on the expansion plans to keep them updated on the expansion plans and how they could have access to insurance coverage, increased volunteer pool and other resources if they join the network.

To-date, we have 8 clinics who have confirmed that they will join the expanded network and an

MOU, together with Standard Operating Procedure will be signed with these clinics to formalise their participation.

Central Singapore: 3

North East: 3

North West: 1

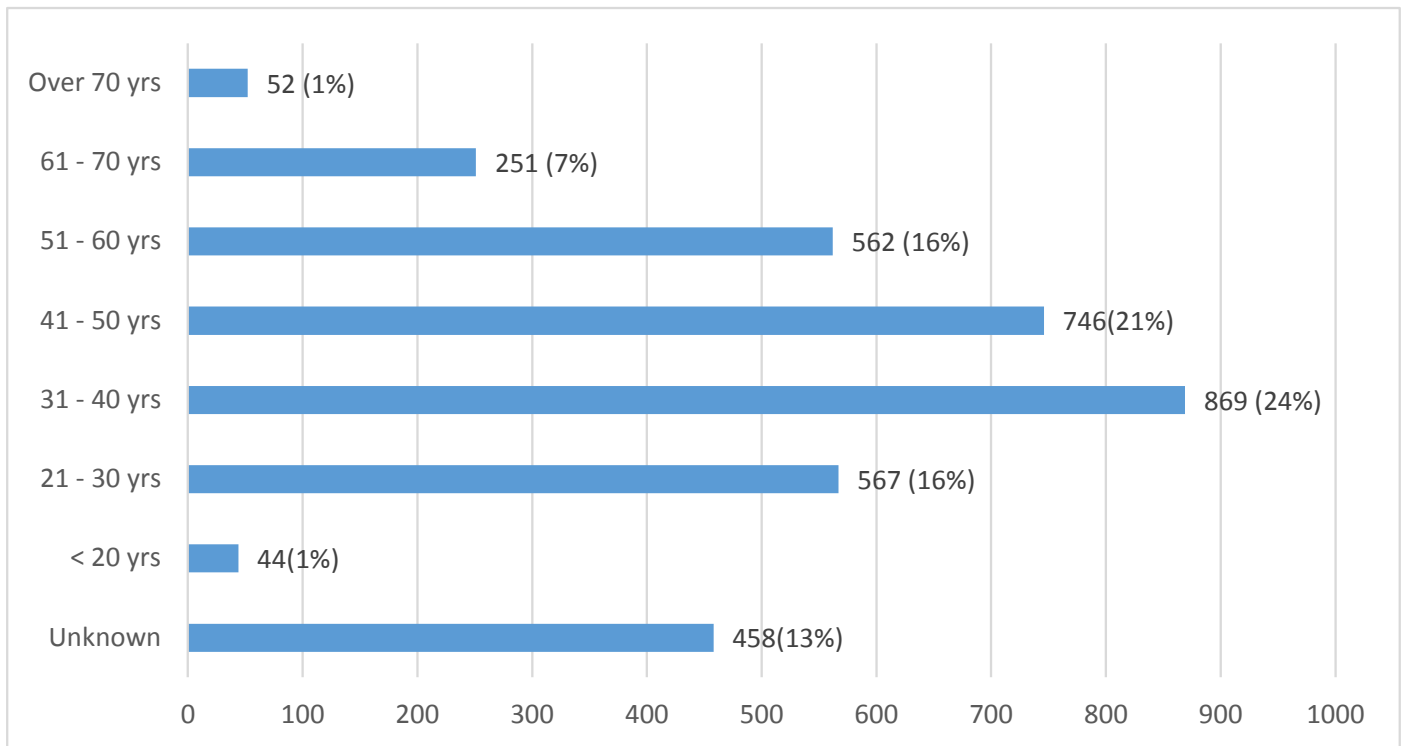
South East: 1

South West: 0

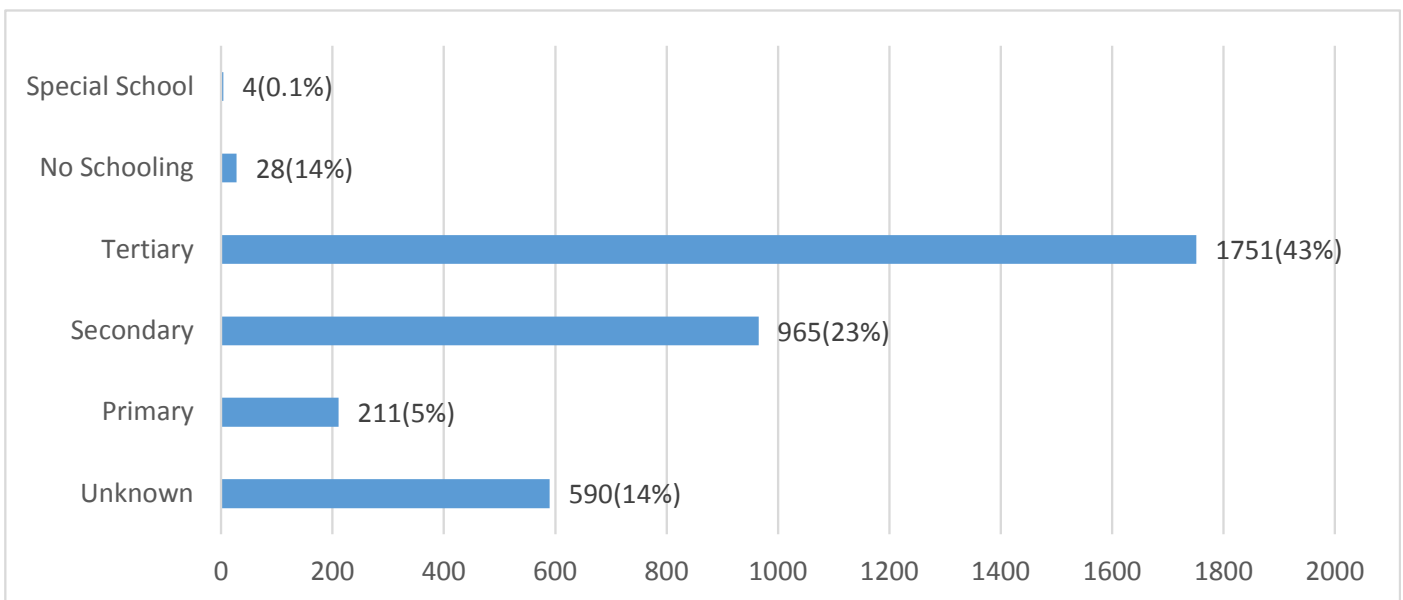
The recruitment of the other clinics into the expanded network will continue over the year.

## Appendix A

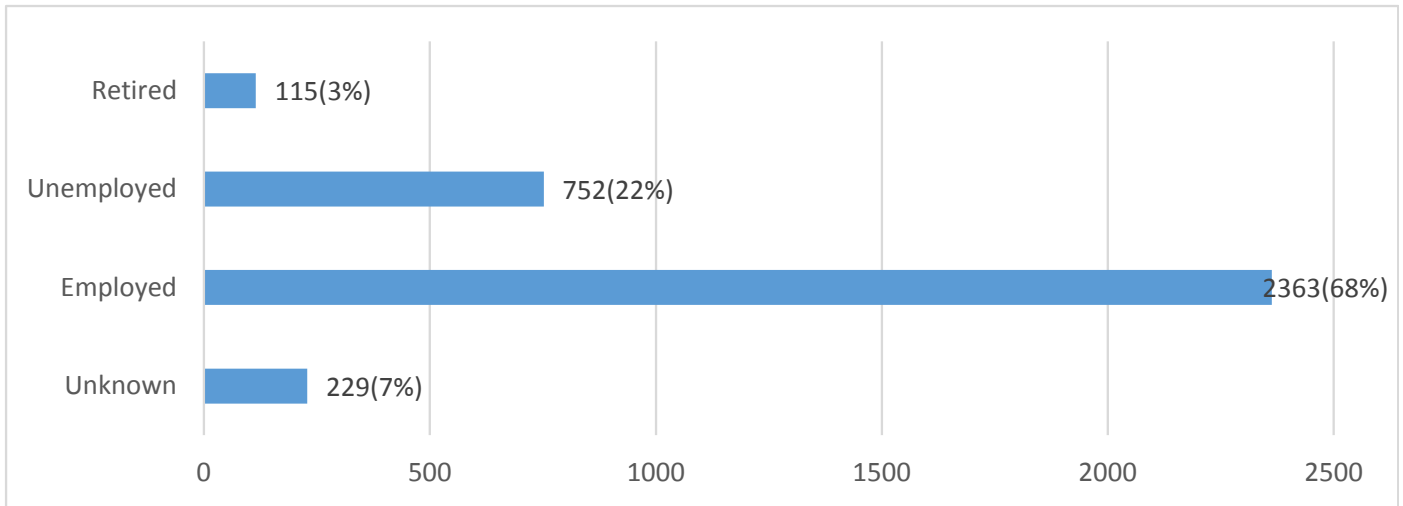
### Age Profiling



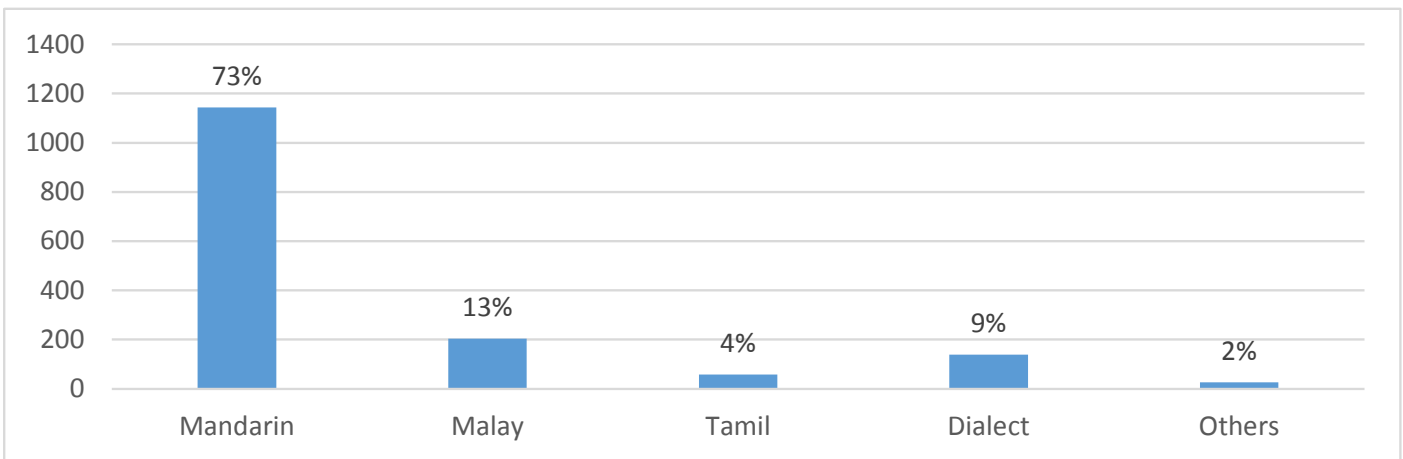
### Educational Qualification



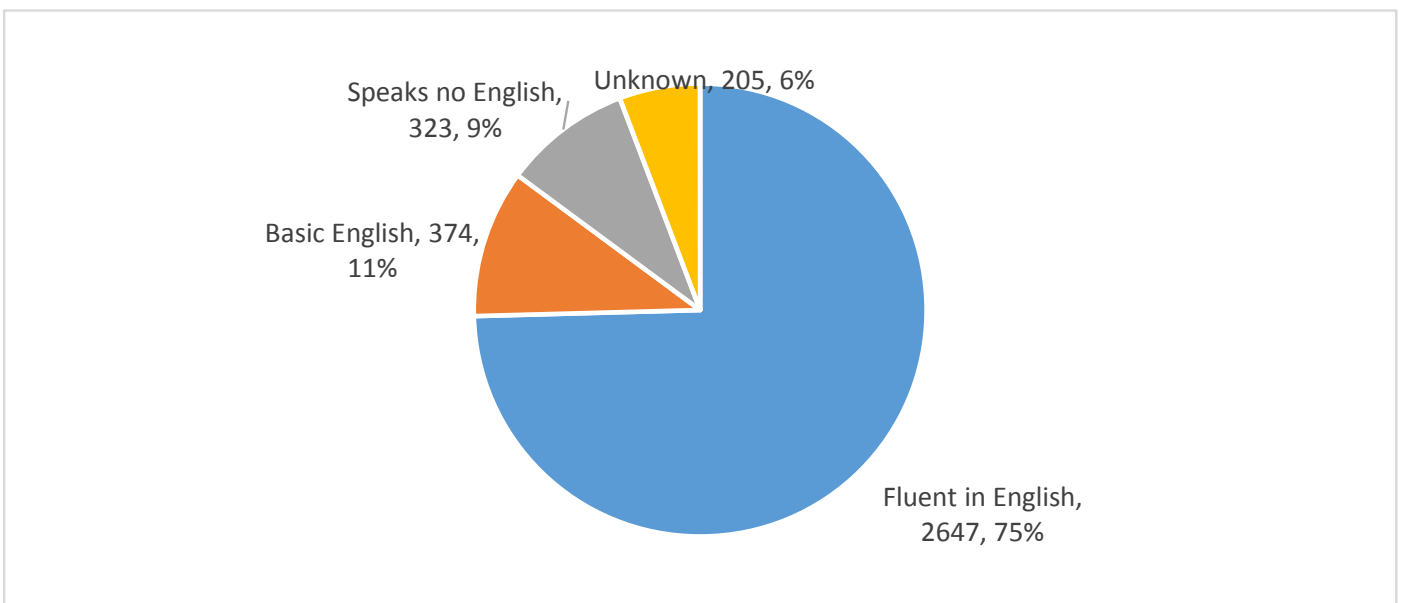
### Occupation



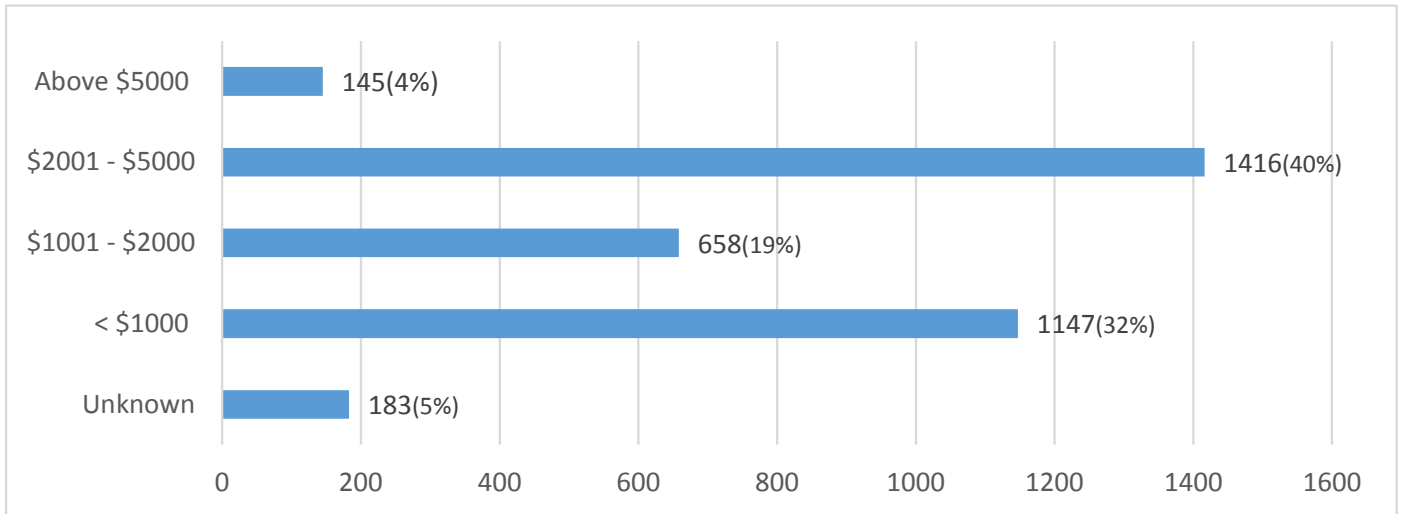
### Languages Spoken



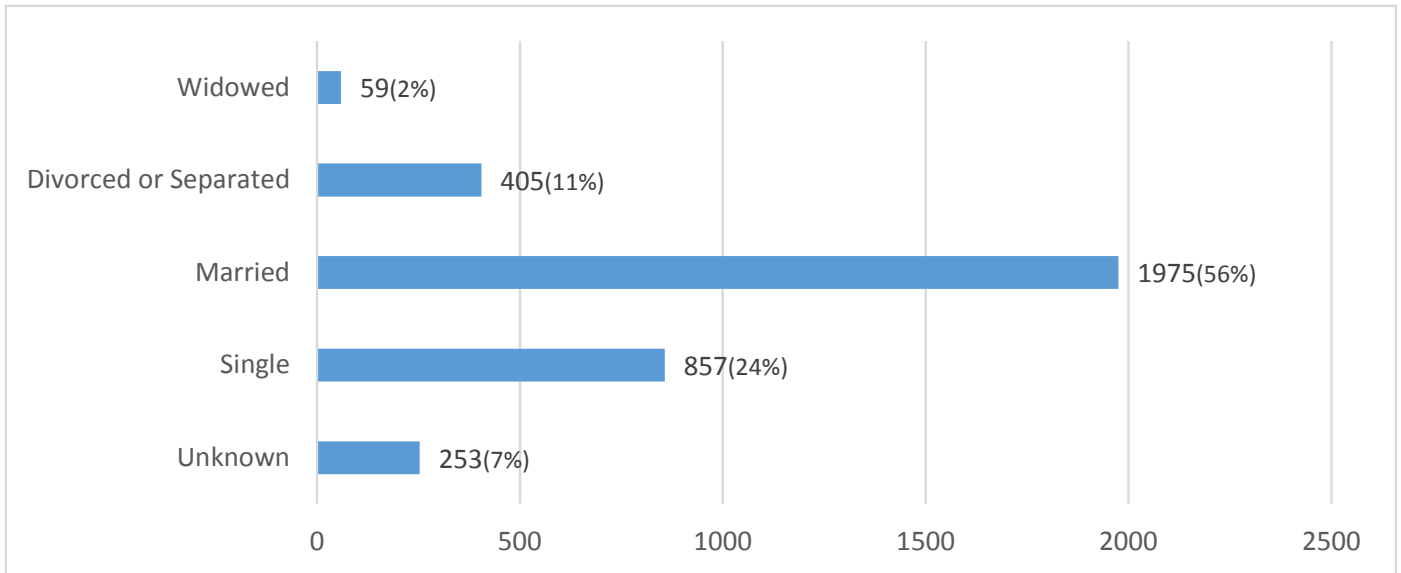
### English Proficiency



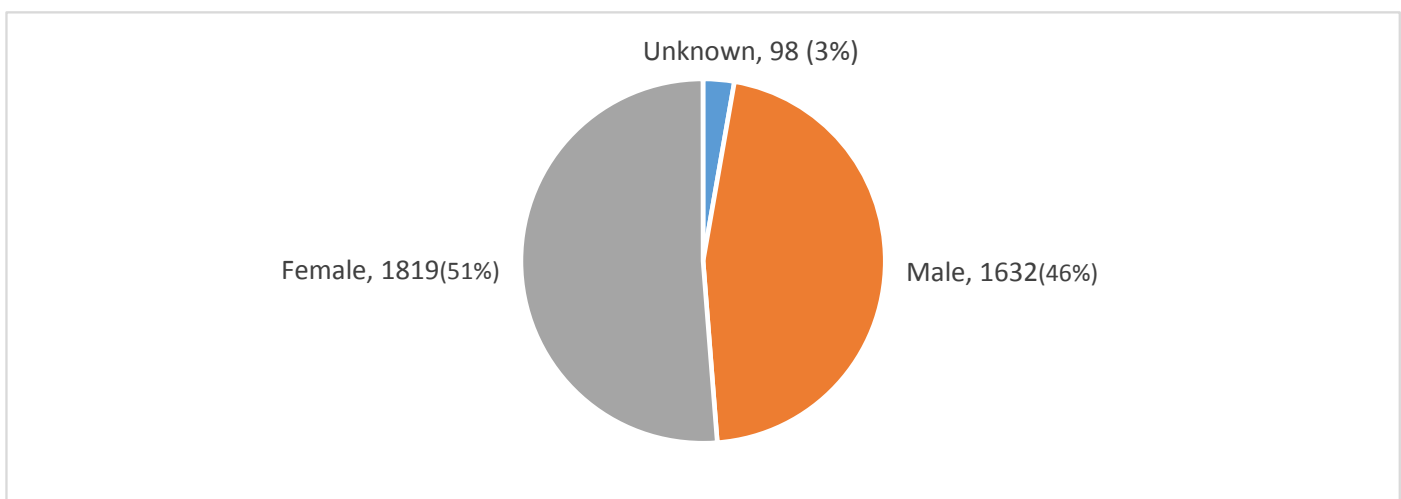
## Monthly Salary



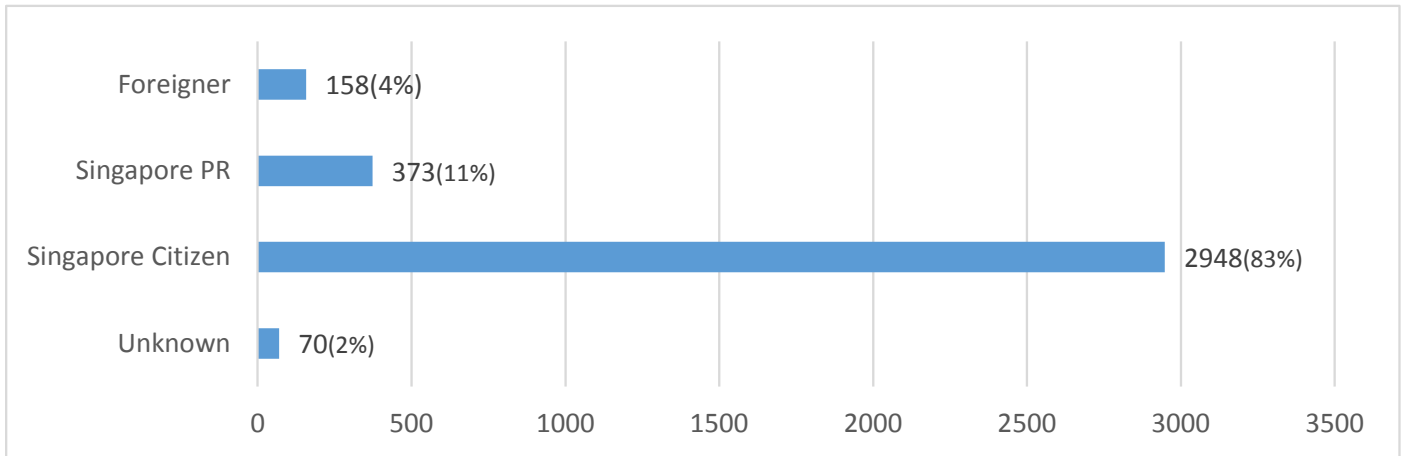
## Marital Status



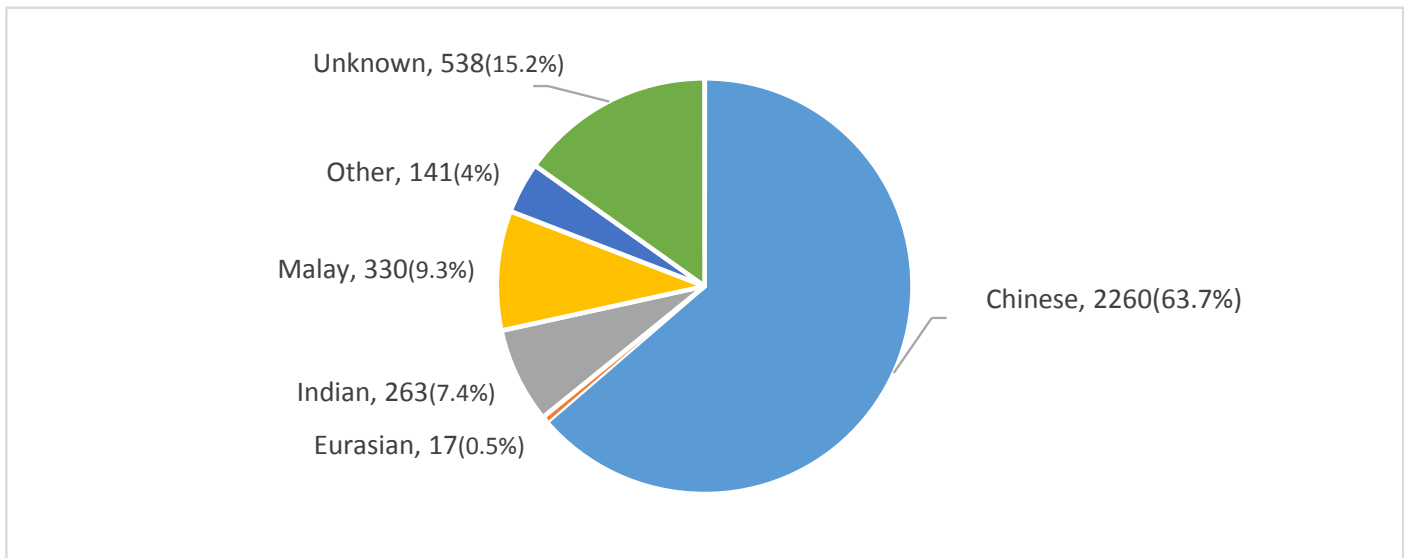
## Gender



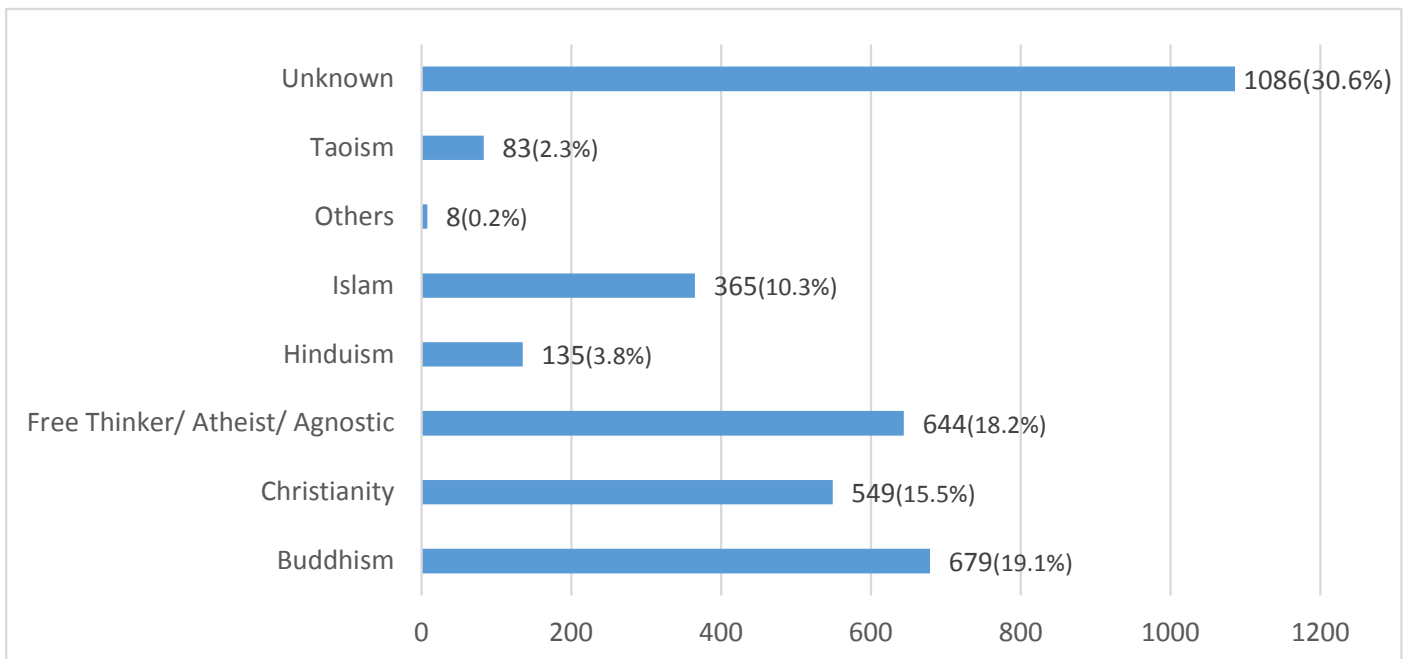
### Residence Status



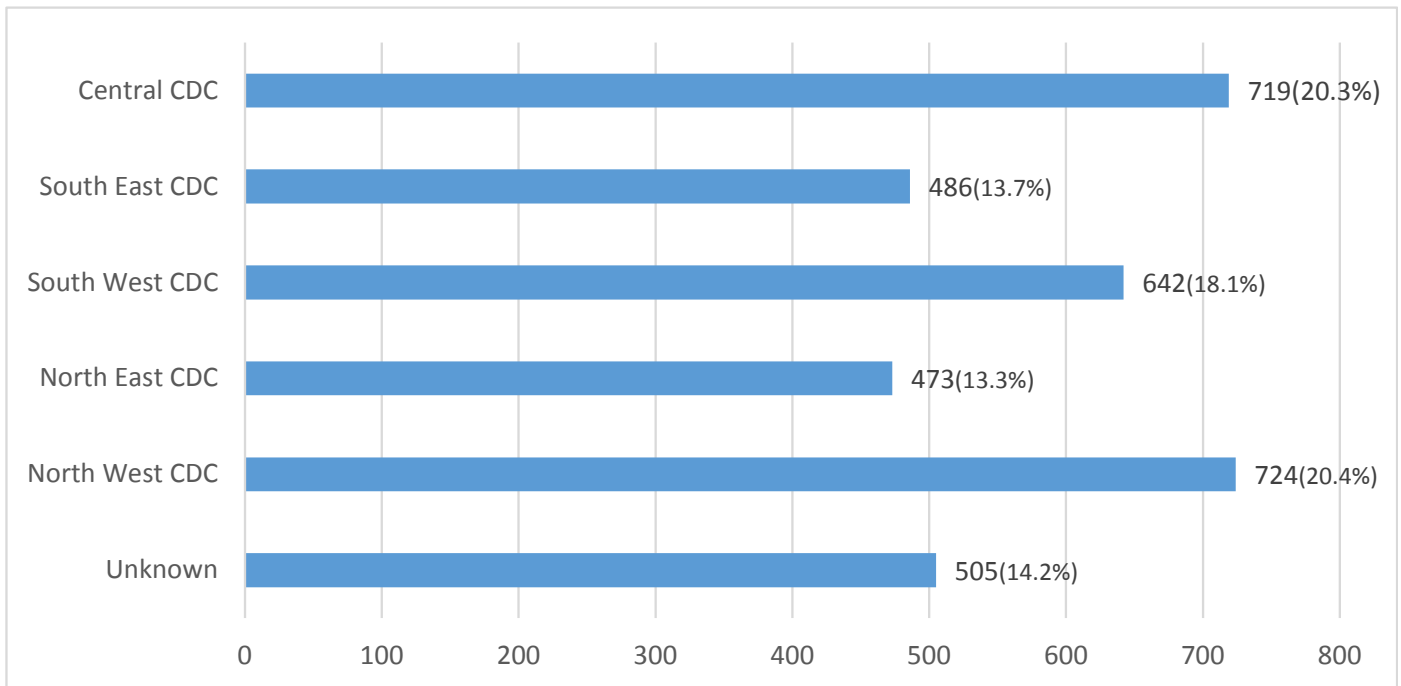
### Ethnicity



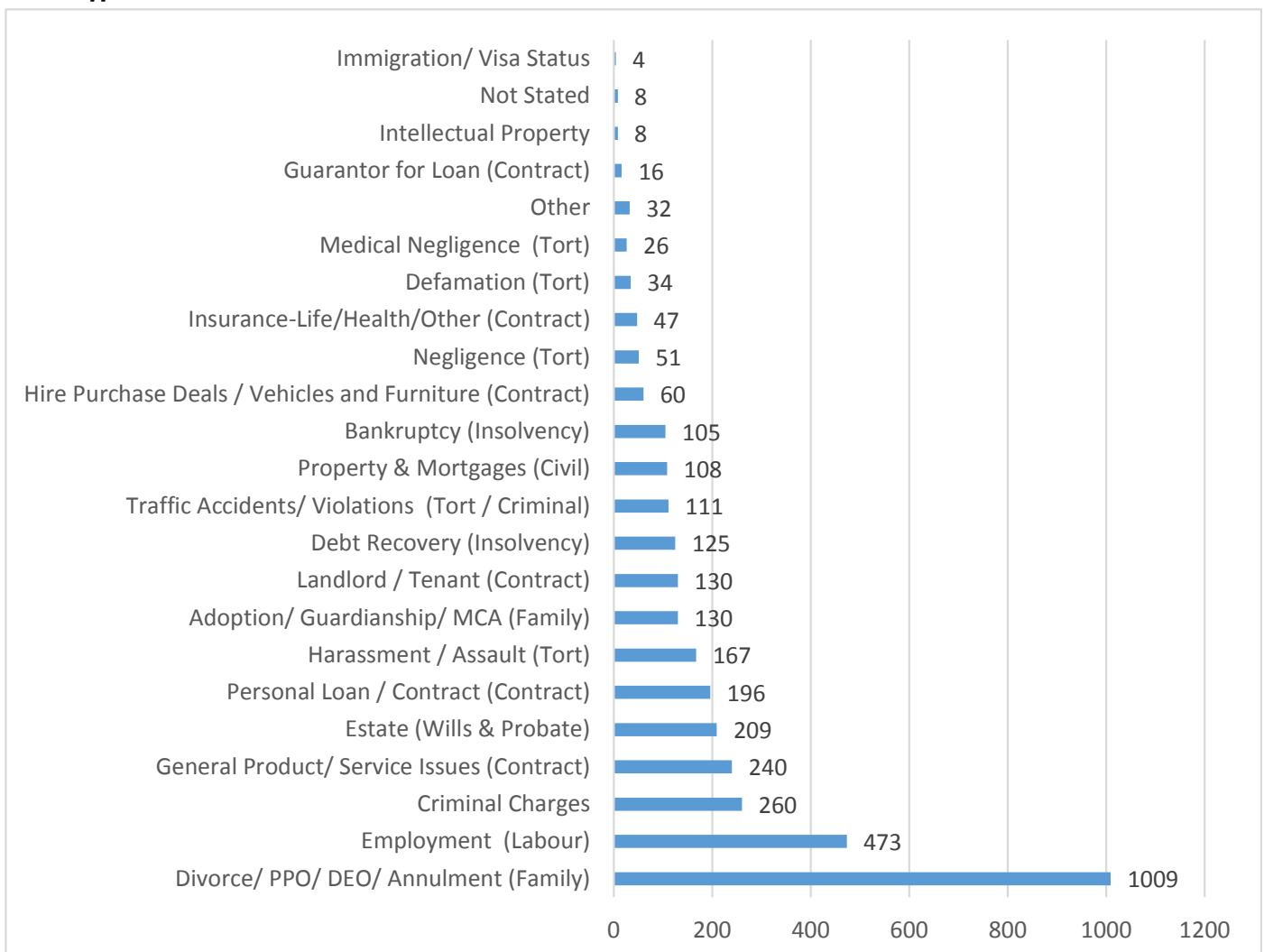
### Religion



## Applicant CDC



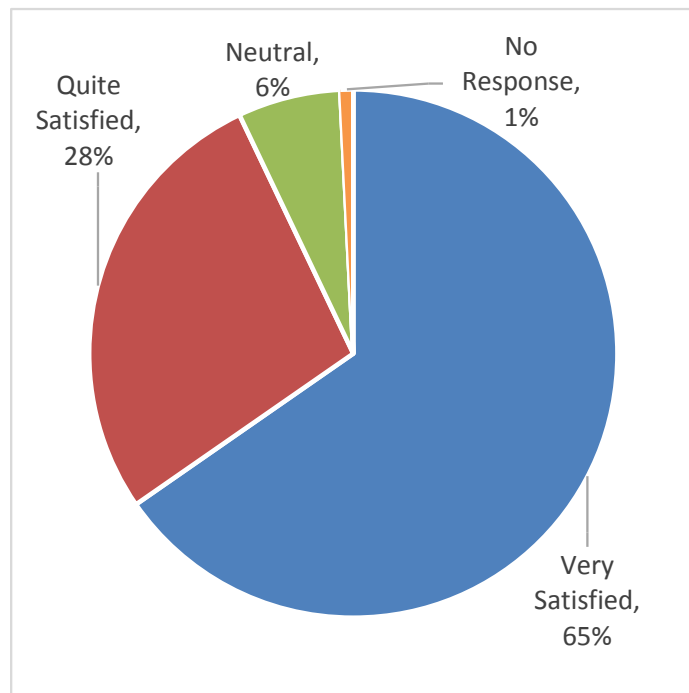
## Case Types



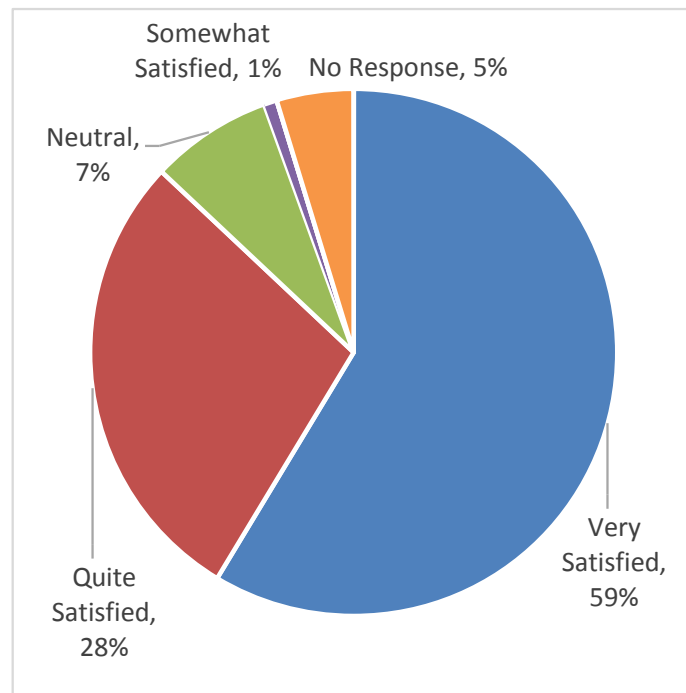
## Appendix B

The figures are based on data collected from a sample of attendees at our Clinics during the reporting period. Sample size is 254.

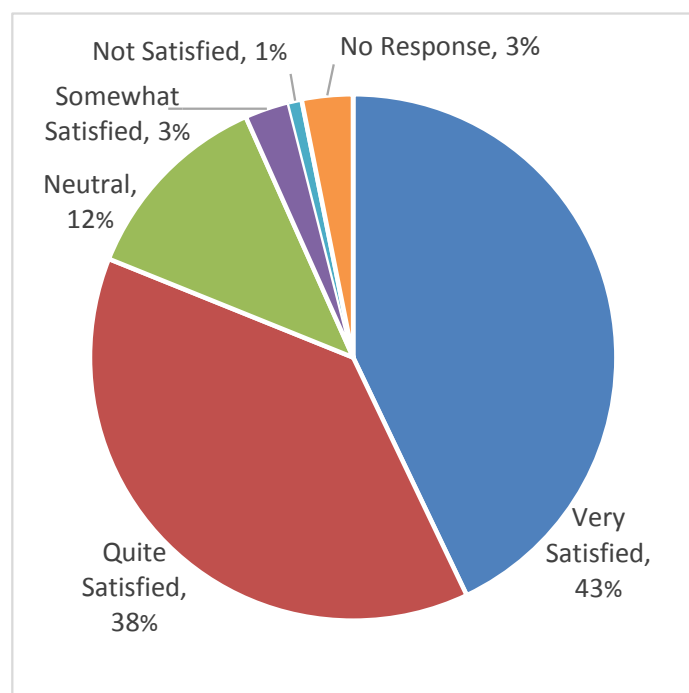
### Friendliness of Legal Clinic Staff



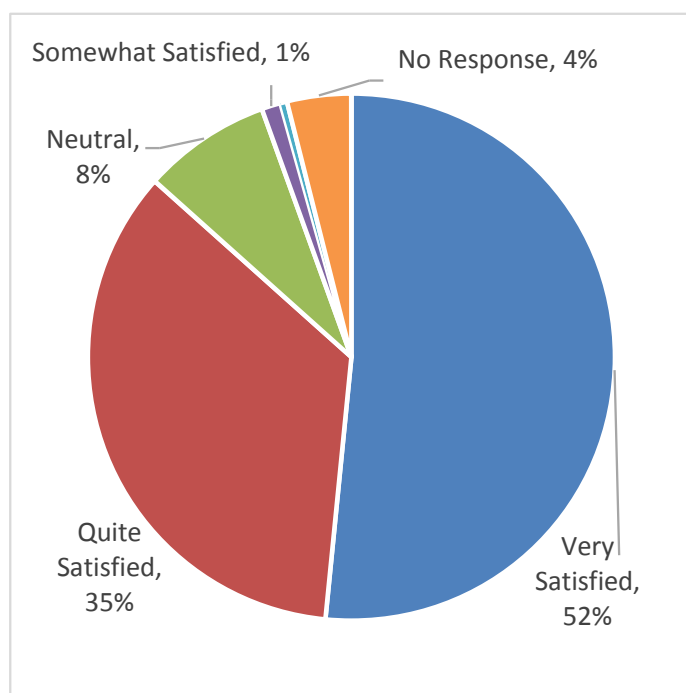
### Efficiency of Legal Clinic Staff

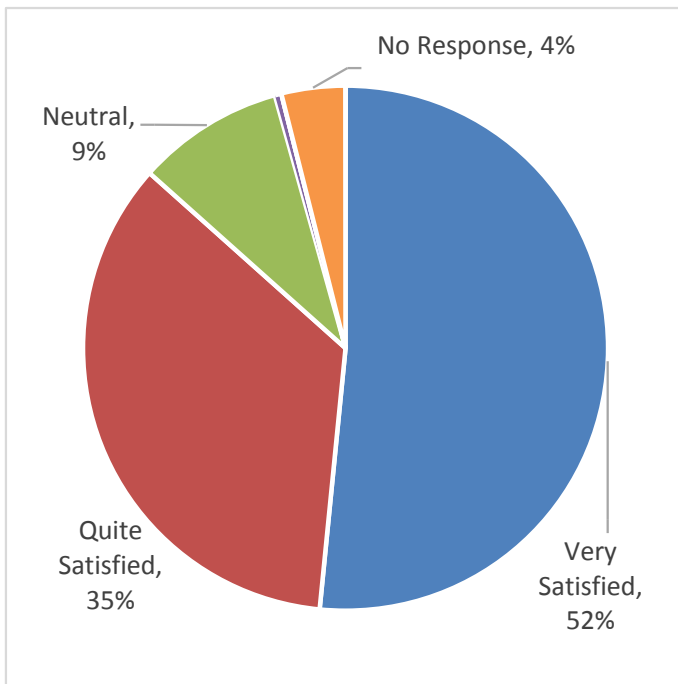
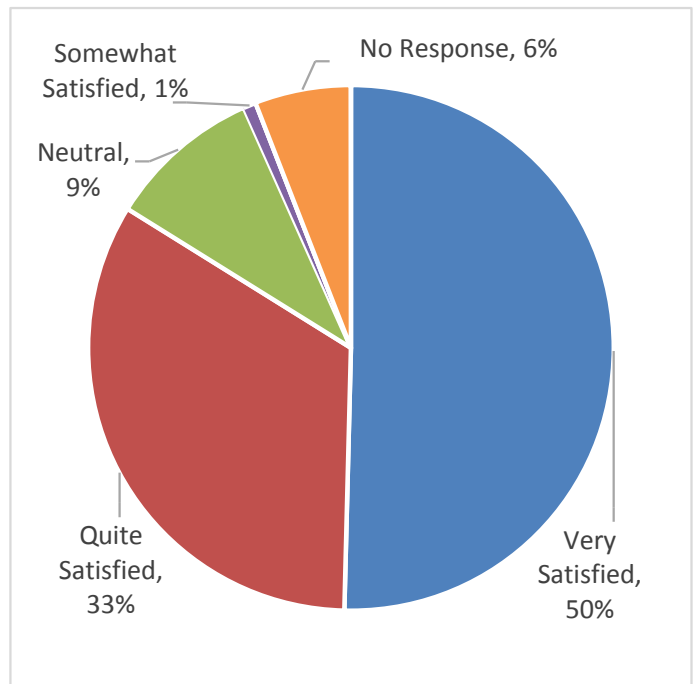
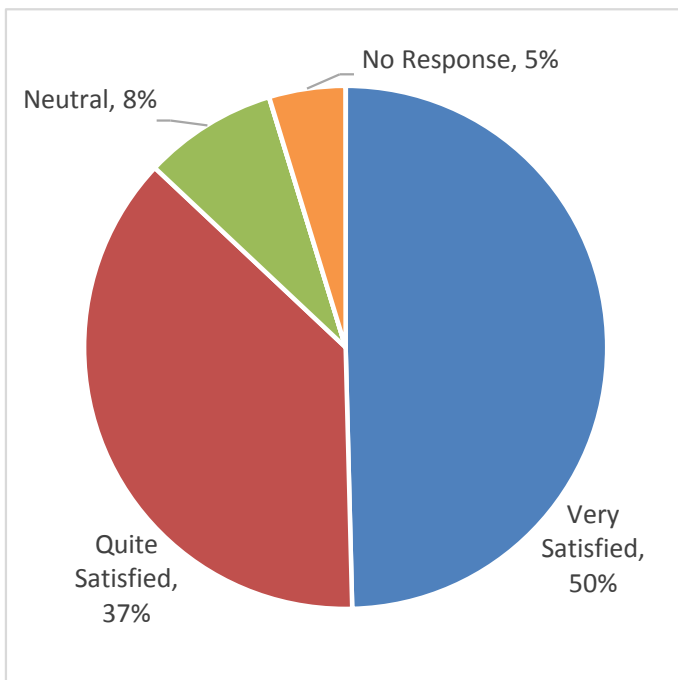
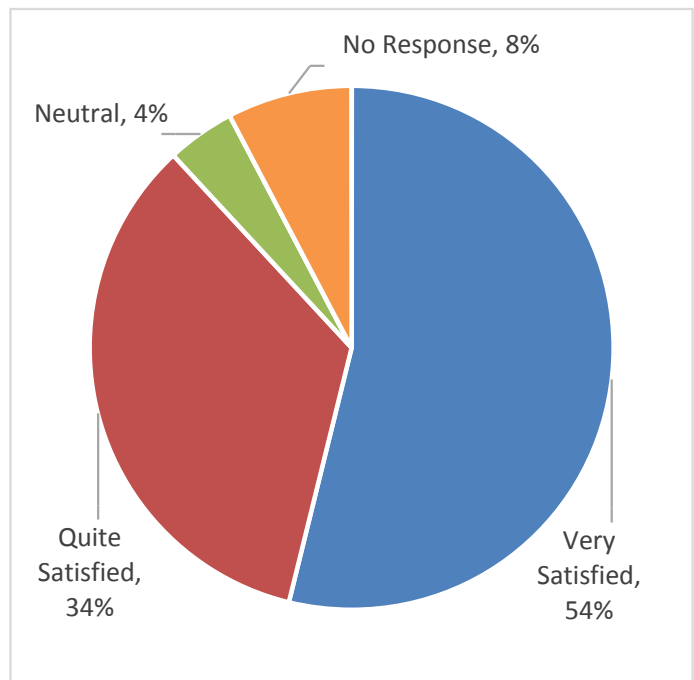


### Session of Clinic

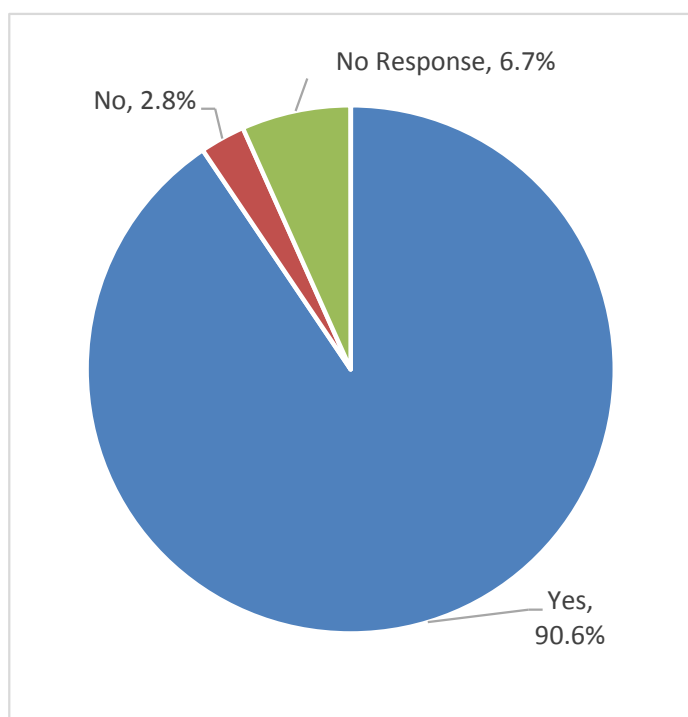


### Helpfulness of Advice

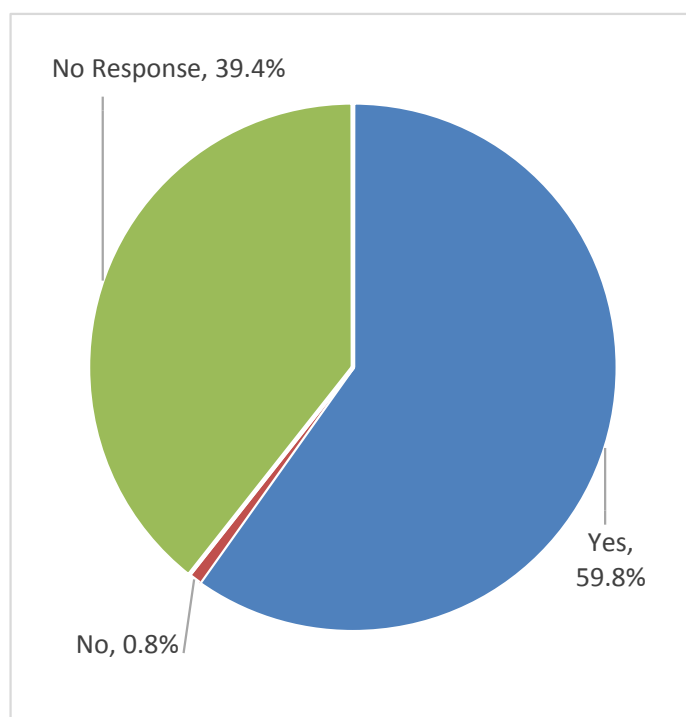


**Operations****Ease of Finding****Waiting Area****Consultation**

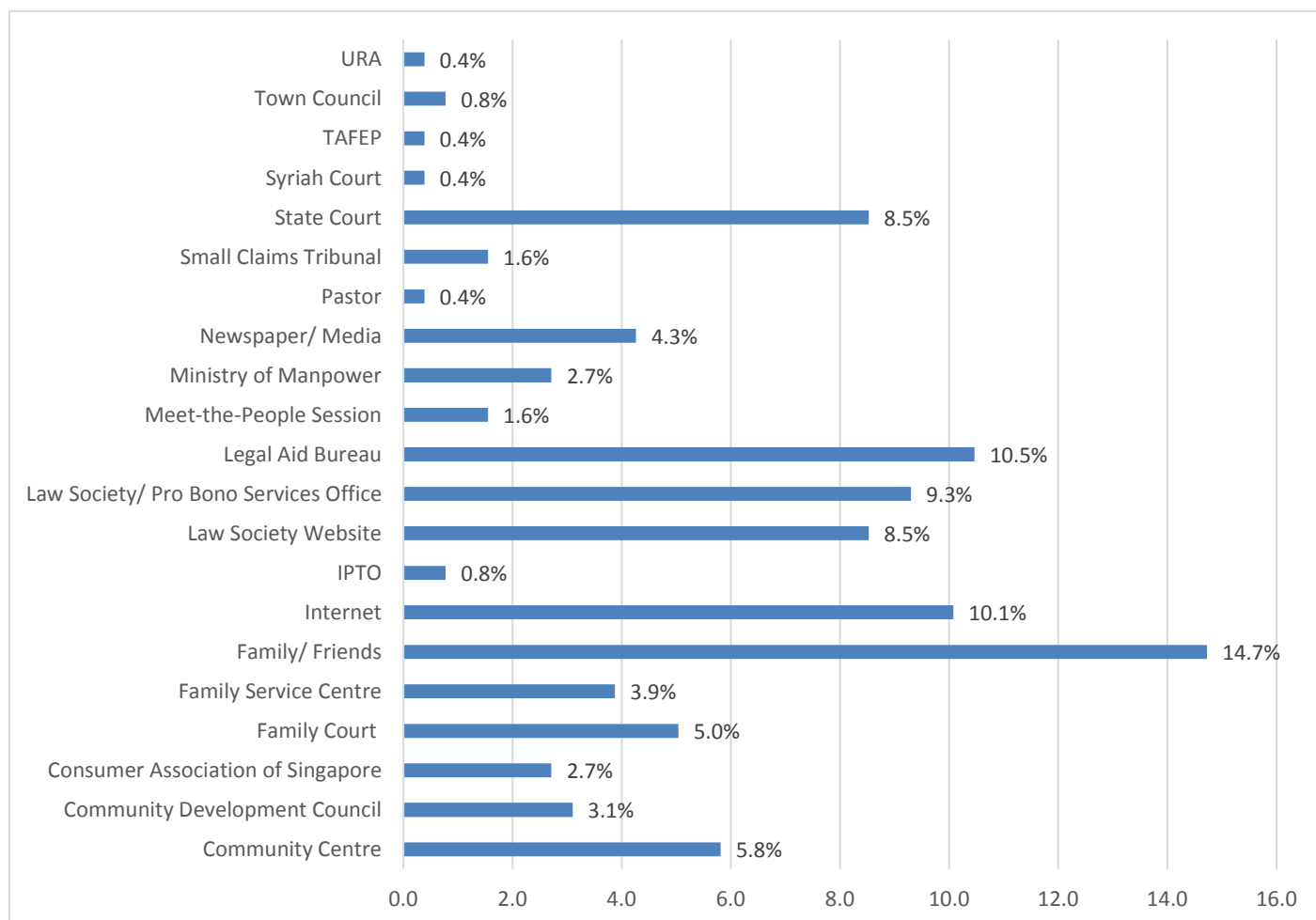
### Would you return to our clinic?



### Would you recommend our Service to others?



### Source of Information



All numbers in Percentage Form.

# Criminal Legal Aid Scheme

*Abraham Vergis, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Abraham Vergis - Chairperson  
 Derek Kang Yu Hsien - Vice-Chairperson  
 Anand Nalachandran - Council Representative  
 Amogh Nallan Chakravarti  
 Asiyah binte Ahmad Arif  
 Cheah Saing Chong  
 Cheong Jun Ming Mervyn  
 Dennis Chua Soon Chai  
 Gary Teo Eng Thye  
 Josephus Tan Joon Liang  
 Koh Yheoh Zhou Napoleon Rafflesson  
 Lim Pei Ling June  
 Mahesh Rai s/o Vedprakash Rai  
 Niranjana Rita  
 Peter Kristian Ellegaard  
 Subir Singh Grewal  
 Tan May Lian Felicia  
 Terence Tan Li-Chern

## Secretariat Representative

Lim Tanguy  
 Gopinath s/o B Pillai  
 Eoin Ó Muimhneacháin

## A. Applications for Criminal Legal Aid Scheme ("CLAS"), Community Court and Remand Clinic Cases

From 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, a total of 1,913 applications for aid were received under CLAS (Enhanced). Aid granted for the said period for a total of 1018 applications. Of this, 810 applications were granted aid under the Enhanced CLAS since January 2015. The number of cases processed up to August 2015 in comparison to 2014 increased by 53% with more than 800 more applicants qualifying for criminal legal aid under the enhanced scheme.

Annual Report Year	Cases Processed	Aid Granted	Percentage of Cases Aid was Granted Against Number of Applications
2015	1,913	1,018	53%
2014	1,857	483	26%

## B. Volunteers

There were 279 CLAS volunteer lawyers in 2015 who had taken up at least 1 case in the period up to 31 August 2015. This was an increase from the number of volunteer lawyers who took up cases during the same period in 2014.

About 35 lawyers assisted with Community Court cases and/or legal advice in Remand Clinic cases.

CLAS's other volunteers include law students from the National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University, overseas law students from various universities, local "A" level students, in-house counsel from local and overseas entities who continue to volunteer their time to assist CLAS counsel with research.

In addition to our Bangladeshi, Burmese, Indian, Thai, and Vietnamese interpreters who assisted CLAS on a pro bono basis, we also continue to receive support from our panel of about 20 volunteer psychiatrists and psychologists, who have been referred some 40 cases.

### C. CLAS Expenditure

Please refer to the financial statement in this Annual Report for complete information regarding CLAS's expenditure and income. CLAS's expenditure for Annual Report Year 2015 has been S\$1,307,301.79. Below is a table of comparison in terms of CLAS's expenditure since 2012 to 2014. The increase in expenditure is mainly due to an increase in staff expenses, disbursements and honorarium pay-outs. The deficit figure of \$759,040.07 for 2015 stated below has not yet taken into account the Ministry of Law's annual commitment of up to \$3.5 million to cover operational costs, honoraria and disbursements, which would significantly reduce the deficit figure for 2015

Year	Expenditure (S\$)	Income (S\$)	Surplus/ Deficit (S\$)
2015	1,307,301.79	548,261.72	(759,040.07)
2014	858,689.00	497,741.00	(360,948.00)
2013	569,619.00	462,930.00	(106,689.00)
2012	553,988.00	411,418.00	(142,570.00)

### D. Enhanced CLAS

The Law Society of Singapore and the Ministry of Law announced on 19 May 2015 a wide range of enhancements to the Criminal Legal Aid Scheme ("Enhanced CLAS"). The said enhancements were

launched by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Law, Mr K Shanmugam. Since the launch, Enhanced CLAS now features various tiers of assistance, and is projected to serve more accused persons incrementally over the next 5 years and eventually serve up to 6,000 accused persons annually. This will be more than a tenfold increase. This is a more than tenfold increase from the numbers CLAS that had previously been served. CLAS will now also offer assistance to applicants who intend to plead guilty.

### Background

In November 2013, the Ministry of Law announced that it would start funding criminal legal aid. Subsequently, it also announced the formation of a Criminal Legal Assistance Steering Committee to oversee the policies governing the disbursement of government funds for the purposes of criminal legal aid.

Chaired by the then Justice Tan Siong Thye with the then President of the Law Society, Mr Lok Vi Ming, SC as the Vice-Chairman, the Steering Committee was started in 2014. The Steering Committee consists of representatives from the Law Society, the Criminal Bar, the Courts, Singapore Academy of Law and MinLaw. Senior Minister of State for Education and Law Indranee Rajah serves as an advisor to the Steering Committee, along with Judge of Appeal Justice Chao Hick Tin. The current Chairman of the Committee is Presiding Judge of the State Courts, Judicial Commissioner See Kee Oon. The Vice-Chairman is now the current President of the Law Society, Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC.

By end 2014, the Steering Committee completed its formulation of the policy framework for the enhanced CLAS, in consultation with the Criminal Bar. The enhanced CLAS was soft launched in January 2015 based on the new framework.

CLAS continues to be managed by the Law Society, with the Government providing the bulk of the funding which covers \$800,000 for initial start-up costs, and an annual commitment of up to \$3.5 million to cover operational costs, honoraria and disbursements. The Law Society continues to raise funds to cover the rest of the costs. The enhanced



*Launch of Enhanced CLAS*

CLAS now is able to serve many more accused persons facing criminal charges.

CLAS was featured widely in the print media, online and on television in Singapore.

Links to some of the media coverage of the enhanced scheme are listed below:

- <https://www.mlaw.gov.sg/content/minlaw/en/news/press-releases/Enhanced-CLAS-to-provide-greater-access-to-justice.html>
- <https://www.mlaw.gov.sg/content/dam/minlaw/corp/News/Note%20by%20SMS%20on%20Enhanced%20CLAS%20v2.pdf>
- <http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/enhanced-criminal-legal/1854588.html>
- <http://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/government-to-help-fund-enhanced-criminal-legal-aid-scheme>

### Features of Enhanced CLAS

For a quick guide to how it works:

- The Pro Bono Services Office ("PBSO") will continue to run CLAS.
- Means Testing

There will be means testing to ensure that criminal legal aid is given to those with genuine financial need. Accused persons helped have to pass both a means and merits test. They will be required to submit their pay slips or CPF statements, and an application form, before turning up to apply for assistance.

- Co-payment is required

Co-payment will be required from those with an annual disposable income of between S\$2,000 to S\$10,000, assessed at the time of the application.

- Screening by Lead Lawyers (i.e. the Merits Test)

The starting point is to distinguish cases which merit assistance from those which do not. Under enhanced CLAS, senior criminal lawyers will interview applicants, make an initial assessment of the case and provide basic legal advice. They will decide if full representation ought to be granted. Whilst aid was previously granted only for vulnerable applicants (regardless of plea) and cases where the applicant claimed trial, aid under Enhanced CLAS is also provided to applicants who wish to plead guilty now, as long as they will benefit from representation.

- Assigned Counsel

Once cleared by the Lead Lawyers, cases will be assigned to volunteer lawyers, or the CLAS Fellows

- Honoraria

Under Enhanced CLAS, volunteer lawyers will be paid an honoraria for cases on full representation. While not the same as market rate, the honoraria will go some way towards defraying their legal fees. Disbursements will continue to be covered so volunteer lawyers need not incur out-of-pocket expenses. Lawyers who prefer not to receive honoraria can donate the sum back to PBSO or CLAS

- Memorandum of Understanding

Under Enhanced CLAS, 22 law firms have also signed Memorandums of Understanding ("MOUs") with the Law Society to take on more than 300 CLAS cases per year. These firms are:-

Drew & Napier LLC – pledged to take up 15 cases  
 Allen & Gledhill LLP – pledged to take up 50 cases  
 Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP – pledged to take up 12 cases  
 Rodyk & Davidson – pledged to take up 15 cases  
 KhattarWong LLP – pledged to take up 18 cases  
 TSMP Law Corporation – pledged to take up 20 cases  
 Tan Rajah & Cheah – pledged to take up 13 cases  
 Straits Law Practice LLC – pledged to take up 13 cases

Harry Elias Partnership LLP – pledged to take up 25 cases

Wong & Leow LLC – pledged to take up 6 cases

Stamford Law Corporation – pledged to take up 10 cases

Shook Lin & Bok LLP – pledged to take up 9 cases

Tan Kok Quan Partnership – pledged to take up 9 cases

RHTLaw Taylor Wessing LLP – pledged to take up 10 cases

Kelvin Chia Partnership – pledged to take up 8 cases

Eldan Law LLP – pledged to take up 12 cases

Trident Law Corporation – pledged to take up 30 cases

ATMD Bird & Bird LLP – pledged to take up 5 cases

Lee & Lee – pledged to take up 9 cases

Hoh Law Corporation – pledged to take up 10 cases

Colin Ng & Partners – pledged to take up 10 cases

Oon & Bazul – pledged to take up 9 cases

#### ▪ Structured Mentoring Programme

One of the drawbacks of the original CLAS programme was that young lawyers or those who did not have criminal experience who wanted to volunteer did not have sufficient experience in criminal law matters. This discouraged them from volunteering. It also does not serve the client's interest. To address this, the Enhanced CLAS scheme has introduced a structured programme. Volunteers with limited or no criminal law experience will be guided through their initial cases by experienced senior criminal law practitioners. Volunteers will be designated as Assistant Counsel for at least their first 3 cases and assist the Lead Counsel in running their cases. Thereafter they may progress to handle "plead guilty" ("PG") cases and "claim trial" ("CT") cases with low maximum sentences. After gaining the necessary experience, they can handle more complex cases.

#### ▪ CLAS Fellows

Law Society has introduced the CLAS Fellowship Programme. The first batch of CLAS Fellows are:

- a. Ng Shi Yang
- b. Sujatha Selvakumar
- c. Lee May Ling
- d. Cai Chengying
- e. Foo Juyuan

f. Alice Tan

g. Sadhana Rai (who joined in July 2015)

CLAS Fellows are lawyers who work full-time in PBSO exclusively on CLAS cases. The CLAS Fellows are directly mentored by a Senior Counsel and a senior criminal practitioner. Their salaries are paid or sponsored by the following firms:

- a. Allen & Gledhill LLP
- b. Drew & Napier LLC
- c. Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP
- d. Rodyk & Davidson LLP
- e. WongPartnership LLP

#### ▪ PBSO Support and Training

PBSO has provided more support and training for volunteer lawyers.

#### ▪ CLAS Training Programme

The primary goal of the training programme is to develop a general understanding of the criminal justice system's response to crime in society, with emphasis on the origins and purpose of criminal Courts, key terminology, and the role of defence counsel and the key stages of a criminal case. Each module is catered to provide an introductory survey of a particular aspect of the criminal justice process. Each module sees some 30 to 40 attendees and has attracted the interest of other organisations such as various embassies.

Details of the modules conducted are as follows:

Module 1:	Overview of the Criminal Justice Process
Module 2:	Role of Criminal Defence Counsel
Module 3:	Managing Your Caseload
Module 4:	Representing Young Clients
Module 5:	Interviewing the Client
Module 6:	Interviewing the Client's Collateral Contacts
Module 7:	Dealing with Difference
Module 8:	Arrest and Intake
Module 9:	Securing Bail
Module 10:	Interactions with Police and Prosecutors
Module 11:	Theory of the Case
Module 12:	Investigation
Module 13:	Pre-trial Discovery Practice
Module 14:	Competence to Stand Trial
Module 15:	Guilty Pleas
Module 16:	Challenging Client Statements

Module 17:	Cross-Examination
Module 18:	Direct Examination and the Defence Witness
Module 19:	Use of Documents and Exhibits (cancelled)
Module 20:	Impeachment
Module 21:	Evidence and Objections
Module 22:	Forensic Accountancy in Criminal Cases
Module 23:	Experts
Module 24:	No Case to Answer
Module 25:	Closing Submissions
Module 26:	Sexual Offences
Module 27:	Drug Cases
Module 28:	Immigration Consequences
Module 29:	Sentencing Advocacy
Module 30:	Appeals
Module 31:	Re-Opening Cases

## E. Volunteer Engagement

Under Enhanced CLAS, government funding comes with a target of 6,000 cases to be granted assistance (to be achieved over a 5-year period). This is a vast increase when compared to the average of about 400 cases aided a year previously. What is critical therefore is to get new volunteers on board the scheme, whilst actively encouraging existing volunteers to take on more cases. This is the most vital imperative for the CLAS Committee.

Whilst the payment of honoraria will go some way to achieve this, greater awareness is necessary amongst lawyers and the general public of the vital contributions CLAS volunteers make. Towards this end, CLAS has been featured in the following:-

- a. A TV show "The Verdict" featuring CLAS volunteers' good work. This was result of a close collaboration between Sharon Wong of EN Films Pte Ltd, on the one hand, and PBSO on the other, where PBSO provided case studies and profiles of actual cases handled by CLAS volunteers. Thirteen episodes were produced, featuring cases handled by some of our volunteers like Tan Hee Joek, Peter Ong and Mahesh Rai.
- b. CLAS has also been actively promoting a YouTube clip "Prisoners in Paradise" by CLAS volunteer Josephus Tan which portrays, inter alia, his CLAS cases, and the impact that such volunteerism has on the lives of individuals.
- c. Several of our volunteers, such as Tan Cheow Hung and Mervyn Cheong were also featured

in articles in various publications including the Straits Times and Singapore Law Gazette.

- d. CLAS is also considering the acknowledgement and appreciation of CLAS volunteers. In August 2015, an appreciation lunch was organised with the Chief Justice, where certificates were signed and presented by the Chief Justice to the top volunteers of 2014. Another lunch is also planned with the Attorney-General.

## F. Institute of Mental Health ("IMH")

IMH has volunteered to conduct a Talk Session between its doctors and Counsel, to further explain the process and aspects of procuring an IMH medical report. This is just another step in establishing a better working relationship between the two entities.

## G. Community Justice Centre ("CJC")

The Community Justice Centre ("CJC") is an independent charity with IPC (Institute of Public Character) status conferred. Based in the State Courts, the CJC is committed to ensuring litigants in person ("LIPs") have access to justice through community partnership.

CJC is a one-stop hub that provides social welfare assistance and legal advice [through the Pro Bono Services Office's ("PBSO") Legal Clinics] to Litigants in Person ["LIP"] and their family members. Through the support of the CJC, the LIPs should be able to better present their case, follow proceedings and understand judicial rulings or pronouncements in their respective cases. The Law Society and CJC have signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the Law Society and in particular for PBSO to assist CJC with its efforts to aid the public. Since late last year, CLAS has been collaborating with CJC to assist CLAS applicants who require legal advice and social assistance for themselves and their families, to connect with CJC. Thus when an applicant is interviewed by our CLAS Officers, the Officer would also ascertain the financial, social and welfare condition of the applicant and family, and where appropriate, will refer the case to CJC with the applicant's consent. For applicants who are in remand, CLAS has modified its CLAS application

form so that remandees, besides applying for CLAS, may also request for civil legal advice and social assistance for their families.

CLAS is committed to carry on working with CJC to better provide assistance to our walk-in applicants.

## H. 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 State Courts;
- f. Singapore Academy of Law;
- g. MOU Firms; and
- h. Singapore Tote Board.



*2014 Top CLAS Volunteers Appreciation Lunch with Chief Justice*

In addition, the Committee is grateful to the following firms for their generous support of the first cohort of CLAS Fellows:

- a. Drew & Napier LLC;
- b. Allen & Gledhill LLP;
- c. WongPartnership LLP;
- d. Rajah & Tann LLP; and
- e. Rodyk & Davidson LLP.

# Law Awareness

*Koh Kia Jeng, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Koh Kia Jeng - Chairperson  
 Toh Wei Yi - Vice-Chairperson  
 Simran Kaur Toor - Council  
 Representative  
 Felicia Tan  
 Harold Seet Pek Hian  
 Ho Jia Ni Elaine  
 Jolie Giow  
 Jonathan Kao  
 Josephus Tan Joon Liang  
 June Lim  
 Lynn Toh Kwee Hoon  
 Niranjana Rita  
 Saburabi Nila Ibrahim  
 Sujatha Selvakumar  
 Yasmeen Jamil Marican

## Secretariat Representative

Lim Tanguy

The mission of the Law Awareness Committee (the "Committee") is to coordinate and implement activities to increase public awareness of the law.

2015 is a milestone year for us at the Committee.

Of the initiatives and programmes undertaken during the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, the marquee event was the Law Awareness Week @ CDC in July 2015. We highlight some of them below, as well as various initiatives scheduled to take place in the 4th quarter of 2015:

### 1. Law Awareness Week @ CDC

As a testament to the spirit of collaboration and access to justice, the 5 Community Development Councils ("CDCs") of Singapore teamed up with the Law Society of Singapore to host Law Awareness Week 2015 @ CDC ("LAW").

With the commitment of member volunteers and the pro bono clubs from the National University of Singapore and the Singapore Management University, we managed to achieve 2 firsts in LAW: (i) this was the first time that the Law Society worked with the CDCs to bring a series of law talks to the residents in the heartland estates across the 5 CDC districts, and (ii) this was the first time we rolled out a week-long suite of talks across our sunny island.

Held from 20 to 26 July 2015, 30 legal talks were scheduled to promote greater law awareness to the community, on various topics affecting the residents' everyday lives such as family issues, employment matters, consumer protection, advance planning and end of life issues.

### 2. Know the Law Now 2015

Since 1998, the Law Society of Singapore has produced and circulated the Know the Law publication as part of the Society's ongoing efforts to raise awareness of the law among the general

public. It is intended to serve as an easy-to-use, basic introduction to the law in Singapore and an initial reference point on legal issues and where to seek legal help.

Know the Law Now 2015 was expanded and updated to include changes in legislations, as well as new laws recently introduced such as Protection from Harassment Act ("POHA").

To further enhance accessibility of legal information, we are looking at providing Mandarin, Malay and Tamil translations in due course.

### 3. Project Schools Phase 2

Project Schools was launched in 2012 with the objective of engaging, enabling and empowering our youth to facilitate a greater awareness of the law, highlight their rights and obligations, and to inform them of the consequences of juvenile delinquency.

This continued throughout 2013 and 2014 and since its launch in July 2012, 35 schools have taken part in the programme, impacting over 15,000 students.

Project Schools Phase 2 will see the development of new content topics (sexual offences, property related offences and drugs and substance abuse) and an increased reach to impact 30% of all secondary schools in Singapore.

### 4. Law Works

Law Works was launched in 2013, and the Law Society continued its partnership with NTUC in 2015 to bring awareness of the law to the workers and PMETs. For the period 1 September 2014 to

31 August 2015, a total of 4 legal primer talks took place.

We will continue to work with NTUC to produce 7 pocket series booklets touching on topics such as (1) My First Job; (2) Termination, Retrenchment and Retirement; (3) Maternity Benefits, Parental and Childcare Leave; (4) Workplace Bullying; (5) Workplace Injuries; (6) POHA; and (7) Workplace Discrimination by end of 2015.

### 5. Law Cares/Golden Years

Law Cares focuses on the elderly and the legal issues that they and their caregivers face. Golden Years is an annual project under the Law Cares programme that the Law Society undertakes in partnership with the NUS and SMU law students.

This year, the Golden Years outreach was held in conjunction with LAW and 16 talks on end of life issues were held.



*Law Cares Talk at Queenstown Lutheran Church*

### 6. Street Smart

The Street Smart initiative aims to bring legal awareness to the local and foreign commercial sex workers who may face stigmatization if they were to attend the more public legal talks and clinics.

Mobile outreach and roving clinics were held in areas such as Geylang, Changi Village, Rowell and Woodlands.



*Law Works Legal Primer 2014 - Insolvency & U*

# Project Law Help

*Jeffrey Lim, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey - Chairperson  
 Usha Chandradas - Vice-Chairperson/  
 Council Representative  
 Abigail Dawes  
 Alex Toh  
 Amira Budiyo  
 Annabelle Yip  
 Associate Professor Helena Whalen-  
 Bridge  
 Jason Kang Poh Sing  
 Jolie Giouw  
 Juliana Yap  
 Lyn Boxall  
 Lye Hui Xian  
 Marini Martin Vincent  
 Richard Tan Ming Kirk  
 Renu Rajan Menon  
 Sarita Misir  
 Subramanian Pillai  
 Tyron Luke Tham Yong-Qiang  
 Yuen Wei Loon Samuel

## Secretariat Representative

Lim Tanguy

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

Examples of assistance rendered include: how to register a charity; compliance requirements; reviewing and drafting employment and other types of contracts; and intellectual property issues.

## 1. Volunteers and Organisations Helped

(between 1 September 2014 to 31 July 2015)

### a. Community Organisation Clinics ("COC")

Number of Enquiries	55
Number Registered	33

### b. Project Law Help ("PLH")

Number of Applications	11
Number of Match-ups	6

### c. As at 31 July 2015, we have 124 volunteers for both our COC initiative and PLH scheme.

## 2. Expansion to Include COC under PLH Assistance

When the COC initiative was introduced, it was part of a larger group of legal clinics administered by the Pro Bono Services Office ("PBSO") with oversight from the Law Awareness Committee.

However, as the aim of the COC is to provide legal guidance to charities, societies, voluntary welfare organisations ("VWOs"), not for profit organisations ("NPOs") and social enterprises ("SEs") as an organisation and not to its beneficiaries, the PLH Committee felt that it would be more appropriate for the COC to be included under PLH Assistance to enable the PLH Committee to have oversight of these legal clinics.



*Pro Bono Networking Evening on 13 March 2015 at the Art Plural Gallery*

### 3. Events Held

A networking event organised by the PLH Committee, working with sponsors Clifford Chance, was held on 13 March 2015 at the Art Plural Gallery, on Armenian Street, to bring together various VWOs, NPOs and volunteer law firms to give them an opportunity to meet and network. The PLH committee will find further ways to give VWOs and NPOs more opportunities to meet with volunteer firms going forward.

### 4. Connections with Agencies

The PLH Committee continues to support collaborations with various agencies who work with VWOs and NPOs, including linkages with Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth ("MCCY"), National Council of Social Services ("NCSS") and the newly formed Singapore Centre for Social Enterprise ("raiSE"). The PLH Committee also assisted with participation in Ministry of Social and Family's ("MSF") ComCare Enterprise Fund ("CEF") panel to review and vet applications for funding for social enterprises, an initiative that has not merged with activities conducted under the banner of raiSE.

### 5. Update and Re-print of legaleSE Toolkit

The 1st legaleSE toolkit focused primarily on SEs was launched on 7 December 2013 and all 1,000 copies have been fully distributed.

As PBSO is still receiving requests for copies of the toolkit, the PLH Committee felt that it was timely to review and update the content to include more information pertaining to charities, VWOs and societies, making this new handbook a "must have" for all NPOs and SEs in Singapore.

The chapters in the handbook have been updated and are currently in the final stages of review. The PLH Committee hopes to print 2,000 copies by the end of 2015 for distribution in 2016. The Committee is presently in discussion with raiSE on the possibility of launching this new handbook at one of their events scheduled for the rest of this year.



## growing our practice

An aerial view of the Subordinate Courts building at Havelock Square (1975)

From the Kouo Shang-Wei Collection 郭尚慰收集.

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# Advocacy

*Samuel Chacko, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Samuel Chacko - Chairperson  
 Sushil Sukumaran Nair - Vice-Chairperson  
 Gregory Vijayendran - Council Representative  
 B Rengarajoo  
 Barbara Voskamp  
 Bhargavan Sujatha  
 Chelva Retnam Rajah, SC  
 Chenthil Kumarasingam  
 Chitra Balakrishnan  
 Daniel Koh Choon Guan  
 Darrell Low Kim Boon  
 Harish Kumar s/o Champaklal  
 Joseph Liow Wang Wu  
 Leow Zi Xiang  
 N. Sreenivasan, SC  
 Philip Jeyaretnam, SC  
 Raeza Khaled Salem Ibrahim  
 Sant Singh Tulsi, SC  
 Teng Po Yew  
 Terence Tan Li-Chern  
 Vishal Harnal

## Secretariat Representative

Jean Wong

The Advocacy Committee (the "Committee") consists of 21 members, with a good mix of junior, middle and senior members of the profession. The main focus of the Committee is to provide advocacy training for members of the profession.

For many years, the primary work of the Committee has been the conduct of the Advocacy Workshops that form an essential component of the Part B course run by the Singapore Institute of Legal Education ("SILE"). This is a challenging task as it involves providing personalised advocacy coaching to trainee lawyers over a full day workshop on a Saturday with a further two-hour workshop on a Monday evening. Given the large cohort of trainee lawyers entering the profession, these workshops are conducted on most Saturdays from August right through to November each year. The Committee maintains a pool of over 80 advocacy trainers who are practising lawyers and judicial officers with at least 5 years of experience in active advocacy.

To ensure consistency and quality in the teaching of advocacy, the Committee conducts advocacy teacher training workshops for its trainers each year. This year, the Committee successfully conducted 2 teacher training workshops.

The first was an Advocacy Teachers' Refresher Course held on 4 July 2015 and involved a half day workshop where the advocacy trainers were trained in the methodology used by the Committee in the teaching of advocacy. This methodology was developed by the National Institute of Trial Advocacy ("NITA") in the United States and is now widely used in a number of jurisdictions as the de rigueur method of teaching advocacy. The workshop was conducted by our senior trainers, many of whom have been involved in the teaching of advocacy skills for more than 10 years.



*Our senior trainers with the training team from the Australian Bar Association at the Advocacy Teacher Training Course - (from left to right) Mr N. Sreenivasan, SC, Mr Samuel Chacko, Dr Josh D Wilson QC, Mr Paul Menzies QC, Mr Ian Temby AO QC, Mr Shane Gill, Mr Chelva Retnam QC, Mr Rajah, SC*

The Committee also conducted an intensive Advocacy Teacher Training Course held from 10 to 11 July 2015 for new trainers inducted into the Advocacy Committee's pool of trainers. This course was conducted by our senior trainers who were assisted by senior advocacy trainers from the Australian Bar Association ("ABA"). In this regard, the Advocacy Committee would like to express its thanks to the ABA for their assistance and in sending Mr Ian Temby AO QC, Mr Paul Menzies QC, Dr Josh D Wilson QC and Mr Shane Gill - all of whom provided outstanding coaching to our trainers who attended the course.

The teaching expertise of our advocacy trainers is well sought after by the overseas legal community. This year, our senior trainers have been invited to teach advocacy at courses conducted in Malaysia by the Malaysian Bar, in the United States by NITA and in Australia by the ABA.

In order to ensure that our trainers are kept up to date on any developments in teaching methodology, a number of our senior trainers are sent each year to attend various advanced advocacy courses conducted in Australia and the United States.

As part of the Committee's continuing professional development effort, a specialist programme in Written Advocacy was developed by the Committee and launched in March 2015. Senior members of the Bar were invited as lecturers and tutors for the course. Materials were specially developed for the course, enabling participants to hone their written advocacy skills through small tutorial groups.

The Committee is in the midst of developing an Intermediate Advocacy Course, tentatively scheduled to be run over 3 days in December 2015. This course is designed to enhance the advocacy skills of practitioners who have between 4 to 7 years of litigation experience. The teaching faculty of this course will be drawn from the Committee's pool of senior trainers as well as leading silks and advocacy trainers from Commonwealth jurisdictions.

The Committee will continue to work with relevant stakeholders on programmes to enhance the advocacy skills of our practitioners and looks forward to the continuing support of senior members of the Bar for such programmes.

The Committee wishes to thank all trainers, the Judiciary and the Attorney-General's Chambers for their support of the advocacy programmes and looks forward to their continuing support in the year ahead.



*Our senior trainer Mr Harish Kumar speaking at the Advocacy Training Course (Basic) in Penang, Malaysia*

# Alternative Dispute Resolution

*Lawrence Teh Kee Wee, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Lawrence Teh Kee Wee - Chairperson  
 Chew Yee Teck Eric - Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Samuel Chacko - Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Paul Sandosham - Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Lin Weiqi Wendy - Council Representative  
 Aziz Tayabali  
 B Rengarajoo  
 Bhargavan Sujatha  
 Cameron Samuel Ernest Ford  
 Chitra Balakrishnan  
 Emmanuel Duncan Chua  
 Ho May Kim  
 Nicholas Thio Syn Wei  
 P. Balachandran  
 Rajan Chettiar  
 See Chern Yang  
 Sundareswara Sharma  
 Syahrul Bahiah Binti Jamaludin  
 Yoga Vyjayanthimala

## Secretariat Representative

K Gopalan

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee (the "ADR Committee") is divided into 3 Sub-Committees focusing on different areas of alternative dispute resolutions, namely the Law Society Arbitration Scheme, Mediation and International Arbitration.

For the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, the ADR Committee has actively been involved in a variety of activities. The main activities are set out as follows:

### 1. Visit to the KL Regional Centre for Arbitration ("KLRCA") and Malaysian Bar Council ("MBC")

Representatives from the Committee attended the launch of the KLRCA in November 2014, and had a fruitful meeting with the Arbitration and Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee of the MBC.

### 2. Seminars

The International Arbitration Sub-Committee ("IA Sub-Committee") organised a number of seminars/workshops in the reporting year, a couple of which were held in collaboration with external partners, such as the Young International Arbitration Group (of the London Court of International Arbitration)

*Members of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee*



and the Young International Council for Commercial Arbitration in the first half of 2015. The topics covered included topical issues in international arbitration with discussions of Singapore case law, as well as management of cross cultural issues in international arbitration.

The IA Sub-Committee is in the midst of arranging for a seminar on "Basic Introduction to International Arbitration", in September 2015. The Sub-Committee will be engaging a well-known arbitrator and Queen's Counsel as speakers for this event. Apart from this seminar, the Sub-Committee is also working on holding an interactive workshop for practitioners looking to venture into the practice area of International Arbitration, tentatively to be held in the second half of 2015.

The ADR Committee is collaborating with the Intellectual Property Committee to hold a Seminar on "Arbitration and Intellectual Property Disputes – Arbitration or Litigation" on 31 August 2015.

The ADR Committee is also in the midst of arranging for a large-scale mediation event which will involve various organisations such as the Ministry of Manpower, IPOS, SIMC, SMC, Resolvers, MeD8, Harmony Mediation Group, Eagles Mediation & Counselling Centre, WIPO Arbitration and Mediation Centre, amongst others, which is planned to be held in first half of 2016.

### **3. Law Society Arbitration Scheme ("LSAS")**

As an ongoing effort to promote the use of LSAS, the LSAS Sub-Committee has made contact with various organisations such as the Consumers Association of Singapore ("CASE"), Club Managers Association (Singapore), Singapore Business Federation ("SBF") and the Real Estate Developers' Association of Singapore ("REDAS") and had made presentations to these organisations and their members to gain awareness of the LSAS.

The approach to these bodies has proven successful. CASE will be entering into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Law Society to refer certain cases to be dealt with under the LSAS.

As the State Courts have worked with the ADR Committee on including LSAS as one of the ADR options in both the Primary Justice Project and the simplified process for MC Suits, the Committee is now exploring the possibility of collaborating with the High Court so that litigants may benefit from the use of the LSAS.

Apart from the above, the LSAS Sub-Committee is also looking into a possible partnership with SBF and SMC on the Fair Tenancy Framework.

Following the success of the tea session held for the LSAS Panel of Arbitrators, the Sub-Committee will be holding a lunch session in October 2015 for the Arbitrators, where the signing of the MOU with CASE would be the highlight of the session.

To date, there have been a total of 12 cases under the LSAS. The ADR Committee expects this to grow as greater awareness is raised of the LSAS.

### **4. Networking in Mediation Sessions**

The ADR Committee has been participating in these sessions where various mediation organisations gather once every quarter to share information on mediation. The ADR Committee hosted one of the sessions in April 2015 and received a large turn-out of attendees. Samuel Chacko and Eric Chew are the representatives at these sessions.

### **5. Mediation Scheme for the Law Society ("LSMS")**

The Mediation Sub-Committee took on the task of considering the viability of establishing LSMS and will in due course make its proposal to Council. The proposal is currently in discussions stage.

### **6. Consultations**

The Committee has also provided valuable feedback on consultations relating to the Hague Convention of 30 June 2005 on choice of Court agreements, as well as the Draft Professional Conduct Rules 2015.

### **7. Focus Group for the Judiciary Taskforce**

Eric Chew is representing the ADR Committee to participate in the focus group to provide inputs on needs and concerns in relation to information technology.

# Civil Practice

*M K Eusuff Ali, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

M K Eusuff Ali - Chairperson  
 Ian Lim Wei Loong - Vice-Chairperson  
 Paul Tan Beng Hwee - Council Representative  
 Ang Hsueh Ling Celeste  
 B Rengarajoo  
 David Chan  
 Dennis Chua Soon Chai  
 Felicia Tan  
 Henry Heng Gwee Nam  
 Kronenburg Edmund Jerome  
 Lawrence Teh Kee Wee  
 Lim Chen Thor Jason  
 Lim Tat  
 Lynn Tok Kwee Hoon  
 Matthew Saw Seang Kuan  
 Michelle Woodworth  
 Koh Yheoh Zhou Napoleon Rafflesson  
 Ng Hian Pheng Evans  
 Nirev Shah  
 Ramesh Selvaraj  
 Sngeeta Rai  
 Terence Tan  
 Tham Lijing  
 Vincent Leow  
 Yeoh Kar Hoe Richard

## Secretariat Representative

N. S. S. S. S.

During the reporting period, the Civil Practice Committee (the "Committee") made several notable contributions to the legal profession and the Civil Bar. The key contributions are set out below.

### 1. Litigation Conference 2015

The Committee organised the Litigation Conference 2015 (the "Conference") which was held on 16 and 17 March 2015. This was the third of the series which was first started in 2013.

The theme for the Conference was International Commercial Litigation and leveraged on the much-anticipated launch of the Singapore International Commercial Court ("SICC") at the start of 2015. The first day of the Conference was devoted to issues dealing with SICC. Senior Minister of State Ms Indranee Rajah, SC delivered the Keynote Address on the first day during which the Minister made the significant announcement that Singapore would be signing the Hague Convention on the Choice of Court Agreements on 25 March 2015. The Conference further showcased members of the Judiciary and established legal practitioners who participated as speakers and panellists.

The Conference enjoyed a resounding success, with over 250 registrants consisting of both local and overseas delegates. The Conference provided one of the first platforms for the SICC to be discussed for which the Supreme Court expressed their appreciation. The overall feedback received showed that the Conference was well-received by participants.

### 2. Dialogues and Engagements with the Courts

The Committee continues its involvement with the Supreme Court and State Courts in furthering the interests of the Civil Bar.

Following the Committee's involvement in the Supreme Courts' Costs Budgeting briefing in June 2014, the Committee organised a seminar on Costs Budgeting on 12 November 2014 with the then SAR Yeong Zee Kin and AR Una Khng.

The Committee was also consulted by the Supreme Court for its "Guide for the Conduct of Companies, Insolvency, Equity & Trust and Arbitration Suits" which was issued on 8 December 2014.

On 23 March 2015, the Committee engaged in a dialogue with the Supreme Court and took the opportunity to thank the then Registrar Foo Chee Hock for his support extended to the Civil Bar during his tenure. Following his appointment, the current Registrar Vincent Foong invited the Committee for an informal tea session at the Supreme Court. Registrar Foong encouraged the Committee to continue its active involvement with the Court.

The Committee has continued to use every opportunity it gets in its various dialogues and meetings to seek early consultation on initiatives affecting civil practice. In this regard, the Committee has requested that it be allowed to participate in the Civil Justice Commission that was announced by the Chief Justice at the Opening of the Legal Year.

The Committee engaged in dialogues with the State Courts on 9 December 2014 and 23 April 2015. The Courts have sought representation from the Committee in the Courts' working groups for various initiatives. For example, the Committee was involved in the working group relating to the Simplification of the MC Suit process. The Committee's representatives provided extensive feedback to the Courts which was incorporated in subsequent revisions. The Committee was involved in the Courts' briefing session to the Bar on 28 October 2014 prior to implementation on 1 November 2014.

The Committee was also involved in the State Courts' quarterly dialogue on 23 January 2015 and 22 April 2015.

### 3. Consultations

The Committee continues to participate actively in public and private consultations, such as the Ministry of Law consultations on the Bankruptcy (Amendment) Bill 2015 and the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules 2015.

### 4. Other Notable Initiatives

As part of its outreach efforts to members of the Civil Bar, the Committee is in the process of developing a feedback portal on the Law Society website to highlight the latest legal developments impacting the Civil Bar and to allow members to contribute their feedback.

“The Committee has continued to use every opportunity it gets in its various dialogues and meetings to seek early consultation on initiatives affecting civil practice.”



# Continuing Professional Development

*Daniel Koh, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Daniel Koh Choon Guan - Chairperson  
 Wong Li Kok Alex – Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Mohamad Rizuan Bin Pathie – Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Yeo Chuan Tat - Council Representative  
 Andrew Chan Chee Yin  
 Edward Stanley Tay Wey Kok  
 Foo Fei Ying Sandy  
 Gerald Kuppusamy Chien-Yi  
 Helen Chia  
 Kelvin Koh  
 Koh Swee Yen  
 Marini Martin Vincent  
 Raeza Ibrahim  
 Song Ruoh Jin  
 Tan Tiaw Kheng Allen  
 Vijay Kumar Rai

## Secretariat Representative

Jean Wong

The Law Society's CPD programmes have continued to perform well this past year. Over 70 seminars, workshops and conferences were organised and supported by the Law Society from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, which attracted more than 5,600 registrations from both members and non-members.

Phase 2 of the Mandatory CPD Scheme came into effect in January 2015. Practitioners with up to 15 years of practice experience are now required to fulfil mandatory CPD requirements. The increase in number of practitioners who require CPD points means that there is a need for the Society to increase the number of CPD activities. The CPD Committee, together with the various practice committees of the Society stepped up to the challenge by designing and developing more CPD activities for members throughout the reporting period.

Some highlights of the CPD calendar in the reporting period include:

- 3rd Annual Asia Pro Bono Conference (1-3 October 2014);
- Annual CPD Day (20 November 2014);
- E-Learning programmes (launched in November 2014)



*A participant at the 3rd Annual Asia Pro Bono Conference 2014*



*Opening address by the Attorney-General Mr V K Rajah, SC at the Annual CPD Day 2014*

- Administrative & Constitutional Law Conference organised by the Public and International Law Committee (27 February 2015);
- Litigation Conference organised by the Civil Practice Committee (16-17 March 2015);
- Webinar on eHearings: The Next Frontier after eLitigation and eDiscovery (18 August 2015);
- 2nd National Insolvency Conference (11 September 2015)

Besides face-to-face CPD activities, the CPD Committee is committed to explore other channels of providing CPD activities to our members. Online e-learning programmes were launched in November 2014 and in August 2015, the CPD Committee organised a webinar for members – the first in the history of the Law Society. The CPD Committee will continue to explore new ways of providing CPD activities to our members in a cost effective manner, with ease of access.

In order to better understand the CPD landscape for professionals in Singapore, the CPD Committee hosted senior and lead teachers from the E5 Cluster (Ministry of Education) in June 2015. At the same time, a sharing session about "CPD & You" was organised for members during the State Courts Luncheon in September 2015.

Moving forward, the CPD Committee will continue to develop and roll out programmes of relevance to our members and at the same time, continue to work closely with practice committees of the Law Society. The Committee will continue to work closely with the Singapore Institute of Legal Education ("SILE") and strengthen collaborations with our partners, namely the Judiciary, Attorney-General's Chambers and Singapore Academy of Law.



*Dialogue session with senior and lead teachers of E5 Cluster, Ministry of Education with Chairperson and Co-Vice Chairpersons of the CPD Committee*

# Conveyancing Practice

*Lee Liat Yeang, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Lee Liat Yeang - Chairperson  
 Ang Keng Lee - Vice-Chairperson  
 Lisa Sam Hui Min - Council Representative  
 Chew Mei Choo  
 Chua Lei Kwan Lina Mary  
 Chuang Keng Chiew  
 Haryadi Hadi  
 Hope Wee  
 Lai Jenny  
 Rajan Menon  
 Selina Chin  
 Tan Ching Chern  
 Tan Shi Jie  
 Teo Eng Thye Gary  
 Vincent Yeoh  
 Wendy Wong

## Secretariat Representative

K Gopalan

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

The Committee continues to assist members by providing, if possible, rulings/guidance on various conveyancing practice issues that are encountered by conveyancing practitioners.

## 2. Day of Conveyancing Highlights

The Committee organised the "Day of Conveyancing Highlights 2014". This event was held on 7 November 2014 for the 3rd consecutive year. Speakers at this event included directors and managers from Singapore Land Authority, Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore and Housing and Development Board who shared views on issues relating to Government Land Sales, Goods and Services Tax and the steps to be taken in Sale & Purchase of HDB resale flats.

There were also several senior lawyers, established in their respective areas of practice, and representatives of insurers, who addressed various topics of concern to real estate practitioners. These topics included Legal Effect of Bankruptcy and Insolvency on Real Estate Transactions, compliance issues of the Personal Data Protection Act, as well as the legal pitfalls in conveyancing.

The Committee is now preparing for the "Day of Conveyancing Highlights 2015" scheduled to take place on 6 November 2015. The 2015 event will see more speakers discussing new topics of interest and relevance to conveyancing practitioners. Some of the confirmed speakers include representatives from the Personal Data Protection Commission, Singapore Management University, JTC Corporation and Lockton Companies Pte Ltd.



*Members of the Conveyancing Practice Committee*

### 3. Consultation

The Committee also provided valuable feedback pertaining to the Professional Conduct Rules 2015 and other legislation and initiatives at the request of the Ministry of Law.

### 4. Dialogues with Relevant Stakeholders

The Committee held dialogue session with the Singapore Land Authority ("SLA") and Ministry of Trade and Industry ("MTI") respectively to provide their comments on concerns which SLA and MTI have raised, pertaining to strata void areas and to establishing standard terms for tenancy for commercial tenancies, respectively.

### 5. Committee Meetings

The Committee held a total of 4 meetings in the reporting period, and discussed various issues via e-mail correspondence as and when the need arose.

# Corporate Practice

*Petrus Huang Yen San, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Petrus Huang Yen San - Chairperson  
 Farhana Ahmed Sharmeen - Vice-Chairperson  
 Chiam Tao Koon - Council Representative  
 Chan Pengee Adrian  
 Chester Toh Eak Siew  
 Chong Foo Nam Nicholas  
 Giouw Rong Zhen Jolie  
 Ho Jia Ni Elanie  
 Ho Ying Ming  
 Lo Kim Seng  
 Loo Khee Sheng  
 Low Kah Keong  
 Nigel Yeoh Lian Chuan  
 Ong Ee Ing  
 Peter Kristian Ellegaard  
 Phang Jun Khai Caleb  
 Tong Wei Min Raymond  
 William John Jamieson

## Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

During the reporting period commencing from September 2014 to August 2015, the Corporate Practice Committee (the "Committee") was involved in considering various corporate law issues from time to time with a view to reaching a deeper common understanding of the legal issues.

### 1. Consultations

The Committee participated in a number of consultations such as those concerning the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2015 and the draft Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules.

### 2. Committee's Initiatives

One of the Committee's new initiatives was the setting up of an e-mail address for corporate practitioners to send queries to the Committee for guidance on legal and practice issues arising from the course of their corporate law practice. The Committee is also considering setting out some broad principles which deal with the relationships between fellow practitioners in corporate transaction matters.

### 3. Dialogues

The Committee had regular dialogue sessions with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority ("ACRA") to discuss issues encountered in the practice area and to be apprised of the new initiatives and policies rolled-out by ACRA. The Committee also actively supports ACRA on an ongoing basis by providing feedback on corporate law and policy changes.



*Circular to members introducing a new e-mail address for queries on guidance on legal and practice issues*

# Criminal Practice

*Wendell Wong, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Wong Hin Pkin Wendell - Chairperson  
 Gloria James-Civetta - Vice-Chairperson  
 Shashidran Nathan - Vice-Chairperson  
 Sunil Sudheesan - Council Representative  
 A Sangeetha  
 Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim  
 Amolat Singh  
 Chan Cong Yen, Lionel  
 Cheah Saing Chong  
 Chenthil Kumar Kumarasingam  
 Cheong Fook Hing Nicholas  
 Cheong Jun Ming Mervyn  
 Chin Li Wen Tania  
 Derek Kang Yu Hsien  
 Lam Kuet Keng Steven John  
 Lynn Tok Kwee Hoon  
 Ramesh Chandr Tiwary  
 Raphael Louis  
 Tan Li-Chern Terence  
 Tan Wee Kio, Terence  
 Tham Lijing  
 Vikram Ranjan Ramasamy  
 Prof. Woon Cheong Ming Walter  
 Yeo Nadia

## Consultants

Senior Judge Kan Ting Chiu  
 Mr Amarjeet Singh s/o Jeswent Singh, SC  
 Mr Michael Khoo Kah Lip, SC  
 Mr Sant Singh Tulsi, SC  
 Prof Stanley Yeo Meng Heong  
 Prof Chan Wing Cheong  
 Prof Lim Lei Theng  
 Prof S Chandra Mohan  
 Prof Mark James Findlay  
 Prof Mahdev Mohan

## Secretariat Representative

Tanguy Lim

This report is for the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015.

This year, the Criminal Practice Committee (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.

We have been honoured to be able to expand our pool of consultants to include Associate Professor Lim Lei Theng (NUS).

There were also several events hosted by the Committee to mark another memorable year.

## 1. Main Committee Meetings

Meetings were held at the Law Society on the following dates:

- 3 February 2015: Kick-off meeting of 2015
- 22 June 2015: Second meeting to discuss the progress of various initiatives

## 2. Sub-committee Meetings

There following sub-committee meetings were held:

- Access to Counsel
  - » 10 October 2014: Reviewed the second draft of the paper and made suggestions for the final draft
- Raising the Standards of the Criminal Bar
  - » 6 August 2014: Discussion on Criminal Law Internship
  - » 18 March 2015: Launch of the Criminal Law Internship Roadshow at National University of Singapore
  - » 20 March 2015: Launch of the Criminal Law Internship Roadshow at Singapore Management University

- » 22 July 2015: Criminal Law Internship Meet & Greet Tea Session (with the Honourable Judicial Commissioner Hoo Sheau Peng as guest speaker)
- Organised Crime Bill: Meeting with Ministry of Home Affairs to discuss the Bill
  - » 16 September 2014
  - » 9 October 2014
  - » 6 January 2015
  - » 30 January 2015

### 3. Town Hall Sessions

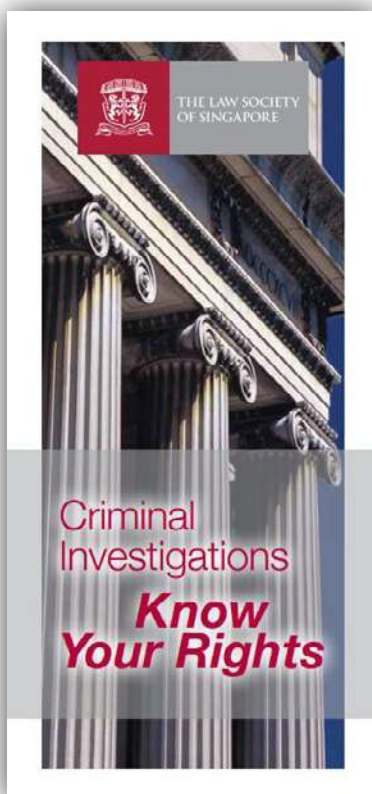
Town hall sessions with criminal bar practitioners

- 21 January 2015: Discussed the Criminal Practice Committee Amicus Team for 3 Judge Magistrate's Appeal; and feedback of any non-compliance by the prosecution of their "Kadar" obligations
- 25 February 2015: Discussion on the CPC Amicus Team
- 24 March 2015: Consultation on views for 3 Judge Magistrate's Appeal
- 12 August 2015: Consultation on proposed expansion of PJP to cover CCMS and CCR

### 4. Pamphlet of Rights

We published a "Pamphlet of Rights" ("Pamphlet") for members of the public. The idea was to provide basic information in a condensed and "simple to understand" form for the public on the relevant rights a person has when being questioned by the police and the process they should expect during investigations.

The Pamphlet is a ground breaking document in Singapore. It is the



*"Know Your Rights"  
Pamphlet*

result of collaborative efforts and engagement with various stakeholders in the criminal justice system such as the Attorney-General's Chambers and Ministry of Home Affairs with the constant and strong support from the Ministry of Law. The Pamphlet is distributed to community clubs and police stations around the country where it will soon be made available to members of the public. The Pamphlet will be available in police stations for persons who are arrested or brought in for questioning. The Law Society hopes to make it available in as many public locations as possible.

This Pamphlet is important and necessary because criminal lawyers recognise that information about legal rights during investigations may not be easy for members of the public to find or understand without the assistance of lawyers.

### 5. Dialogue Sessions with Minister:

- Minister for Law K Shanmugam and Senior Minister of State for Law Indranee Rajah on 12 August 2014
- Senior Minister of State for Law Indranee Rajah on 15 May 2015
- Senior Minister of State for Law Indranee Rajah on 28 August 2015: Video Recording of Interviews ("VRI") during Investigations

### 6. Dialogue Sessions

- With the Supreme Court on Criminal PTCs and other matters on 7 August 2014 and 20 May 2015
- With the State Courts on 23 January 2015 and 22 April 2015
- With the Prisons on 5 December 2015 to discuss operational issues

### 7. "Every Lawyer Matters"

Peer Learning Series on 3 November 2014 – Talk on Scene Reconstruction (SR101) – A Primer for Lawyers

### 8. Integrated Case Management System ("ICMS") Steering Committee

Meetings on 30 October 2014 and 21 May 2015 to discuss issues with the ICMS system



*Visit by Afghanistan Delegates*

### 9. Criminal Bar Get Together

2014 ended on a high when the Committee hosted the 2nd Criminal Bar Get Together at Barpazza on 21 November 2014. The mid-year get together was held on 22 May 2014 at D'Bell Restaurant. These occasions have been a signature event on the calendar for members of the criminal bar to build camaraderie.

### 10. Lunch Events

Lunches were held for the Attorney-General V K Rajah on 14 August 2014 and Deputy Attorney-General Tan Siong Thye on 12 May 2015 at D'Bell Restaurant and Judicial Commissioner Aedit Abdullah on 20 April 2015 at J's Restaurant.

### 11. Tripartite Lunch

The tripartite lunch hosted by the Law Society was held on 27 October 2014 at Mogul Mahal Restaurant. Committee members also attended a tripartite lunch on 22 July 2015 hosted by the Supreme Court at the Supreme Court View Gallery.

### 12. Thank You Lunch

With the Chief Prosecutor and Deputy Chief Prosecutors on 15 January 2015 at Shahi Maharani Restaurant.

### 13. Thank You Dinner

Hosted for the Criminal Practice Consultants on 2 February 2015 at the Singapore Cricket Club to thank them for their contributions.

### 14. Foreign Delegates

The Committee also hosted two foreign delegates.

- 5 March 2015: Visit by the Afghanistan delegates who were briefed on the Integrated Case Management System ("ICMS")
- 26 March 2015: Visit by the United Arab Emirates ("UAE") to discuss the Singapore criminal justice system and experts

### 15. Others

The Committee continued to be involved in numerous projects and dialogue sessions with the various key stakeholders.

# Family Law Practice

*Yap Teong Liang, Co-Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

*Raymond Yeo Khee Chye, Co-Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Yap Teong Liang – Co-Chairperson  
 Raymond Yeo Khee Chye – Co-Chairperson  
 Rajan Chettiar – Vice-Chairperson  
 Parhar Sunita Sonya – Council Representative  
 Adriene Chong  
 Amolat Singh  
 Anusha Prabhakaran  
 Anuradha Sharma  
 Belinda Ang Choo Poh  
 Dorothy Tan  
 Dorothy Chai  
 Ellen Lee Geck Hoon  
 Engelin Teh Kuek Ngor, SC  
 Gloria James-Civetta  
 Harold Seet Pek Hian  
 Helen Chia  
 Halijah Binte Mohamad  
 Hannah Seow  
 June Lim  
 Kalpanath Singh Rina  
 Kee Lay Lian  
 Lai Jenny  
 Malathi Das  
 Michelle Woodworth  
 Suchitra Ragupathy  
 Tan Hui Qing  
 Tan Siew Kim  
 Wong Kai Yun  
 Wong Soo Chih

## Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

From September 2014 to August 2015, the Family Law Practice Committee (the “Committee”) has been involved in the following activities:

### 1. Dialogues with the Family Justice Courts (“FJC”)

The Committee continued to engage regular quarterly dialogue sessions with the FJC to provide feedback in relation to the issues such as the new Family Justice Act, Rules and Practice Directions.

### 2. Family Law Practice Seminars

The Committee organised 2 seminars in March and May 2015. The first covered topics such as appeals, maintenance and personal protection orders, while the second touched on the International Child Abduction Act, practical perspectives on child abduction and relocation. The Committee is in the midst of planning 1 or 2 more seminars in the second half of the year.

### 3. Town Hall Sessions on Proposed Family Law Practitioner Accreditation Scheme (“FLP Accreditation Scheme”)

The Committee organised the first town hall session in February 2015 to obtain feedback from family law practitioners on the proposed FLP Accreditation Scheme. Subsequently, the Committee organised a second town hall session in May 2015 in collaboration with the FJC to obtain further feedback. Judge of Appeal Andrew Phang, as Chairman of the FLP Accreditation Committee, as well as Judicial Commissioner Valerie Thean and Judicial Commissioner Debbie Ong, attended the second town hall.

### 4. Consultation

The Committee provided views on the consultation relating to the draft Professional Conduct Rules 2015.

### 5. Legal Clinics

The Committee members continue to provide free

legal advice every Tuesday and Wednesday at legal clinics in the Family Justice Courts.

## 6. Tea Session with Students from the Faculty of Law, NUS

As a tradition which has been carried on for many years by the Committee, its members met with students from the Faculty of Law in April 2015 for a tea session to share their experiences as family law practitioners.

## 7. Interview in Singapore Law Gazette ("SLG")

The Co-Chairpersons gave an interview in the June 2015 issue of the SLG, addressing questions relating to the development of family law practice in the FJC.

## 8. Focus Group for the Judiciary Taskforce on IT Matters

The Vice-Chairperson Rajan Chettiar, Michelle Woodworth and Parhar Sunita Sonya are representing the Committee on this taskforce.



*Co-Chairpersons' interview in the Singapore Law Gazette*

*Members of the Family Law Practice Committee*



# Information Technology

Elaine Tan Ee Lian, Chairperson //////////////////////////////////////

Committee Members

Elaine Tan Ee Lian - Chairperson  
Lim Seng Siew - Council Representative  
Alicia Zhuang  
Anil Narain Balchandani  
Bryan Manaf Ghows  
Ervin Tan  
Jonathan Kao  
Kronenburg Edmund Jerome  
Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey  
Terence Tan

Secretariat Representative

Michael Ho

The Information Technology Committee (the “Committee”) continued its work in the following areas:

1. Collecting and providing feedback to the Courts on the use of IT by the Courts; and
2. Conducting talks and sessions for members on the use of IT by a law practice.

### Feedback to the Courts

The Judiciary, together with the IDA, has formed a *Courts of the Future* taskforce to identify the future IT needs of the Judiciary. Some members of the Committee, as well as representatives of other committees and practice groups have been invited to participate in focus groups discussions scheduled to be held in in the last quarter of 2015. The discussions in these focus group sessions will help chart and design the IT Roadmap for the Courts of the future.

### Talks for Practitioners on the Use of IT by Law Firms

On 16 September 2014, the Committee, together with the Small Law Firms Committee, conducted a seminar entitled “Government Grants – Making the Most of this Gift Horse” to provide information to members on the grants and credit schemes that are available to help defray the cost of IT acquisitions.

The Committee has also supported the Small Law Firms and State Courts Committees by sharing information and experiences on IT use by a lawyer. Information shared included using cloud storage solutions, free or affordable software and applications that a practitioner might use (eg for document management, remote access to office computers, CRM etc), using technology during hearings and data protection issues arising from the use of IT.

### Hosting Delegates from the Japanese Federation of Bar Associations

On 10 April 2015, members of the IT Committee of the Japanese Federation of Bar Associates visited the Law Society as part of their research and study into e-Litigation and e-Case Management systems that may be used in various countries. The Committee gave the delegates a demonstration of the e-Litigation portal. Bryan Ghows also conducted a demonstration on the Magnum system used by the litigants and Courts in *Global Yellow Pages Ltd v Promedia Directories Pte Ltd*.

Seminar on "Government Grants - Making the Most of this Gift Horse" held on 16 September 2014



# Insolvency Practice

Sushil Sukumaran Nair, Chairperson

Committee Members
Sushil Sukumaran Nair - Chairperson
Tong Chun Fai Edwin Charles - Vice-Chairperson
Gregory Vijayendran - Council Representative
Adrian Peh Nam Chuan
Ajinderpal Singh
Andrew Chan Chee Yin
Balakrishnan Ashok Kumar
Chan Ming Onn David
Edward Tiong Yung Suh
Hing Shan Shan Blossom
Ho Mingjie Kevin
Kenneth Lim Tao Chung
Lim Hui Li Debby
Mohan Gopalan
Nish Kumar Shetty
Sandrasegara Manoj Pillay
Tay Kang-Rui Darius
Secretariat Representative
Delphine Loo Tan

## 1. National Insolvency Conference

Following the success of the inaugural Regional Insolvency Conference in 2014, the Committee will be organising a national conference which seeks to bring together practitioners involved in various aspects of insolvency works, namely the lawyers, accountants, bankers and regulators. The Conference creates a platform for practitioners to share and discuss current trends and developments impacting international and regional insolvency law. The topics for discussion include restructuring in the shipping industry and challenges and options available to foreign creditors and/or shareholders when foreign companies become insolvent or approach insolvency.

The conference will feature a line-up of distinguished panellists and speakers including leading legal, accounting and financial practitioners with judges/former judges from around the region. Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Law, Mr K Shanmugam will be delivering the keynote. The welcoming address and closing address will be delivered by Chairperson, Sushil Nair and the Chairman of the organising committee, Andrew Chan respectively.

## 2. Consultation

The Committee participated in the public consultation on Bankruptcy (Amendment) Bill by the Ministry of Law and continues to communicate the concerns and views of the Committee on insolvency matters to external stakeholders.

## 3. Representative on IPAS

Chairperson Sushil Nair, as the Law Society representative on the Insolvency Practitioners Association of Singapore ("IPAS"), has been actively engaged in meetings and matters relating to IPAS.

# Intellectual Property

*Jo-Ann See, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Jo-Ann See Siew Heok - Chairperson  
Jonathan Foong Yew Cho - Vice-Chairperson  
Tien De Ming Grismond - Council Representative  
Adam Daniel Giam  
Amira Nabila Budiyo  
Anil Balchandani  
Boo Yee Swan  
Daniel Lim Ying Sin  
Darren King  
Elaine Lew Yee Wen  
Elaine Tan Ee Lian  
George Hwang  
Jason Kang Poh Sing  
Jevon Louis  
Lam Chung Nian  
Lee Shang Wei Joyce  
Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey  
Looi Teck Kheong  
Lyn Boxall  
M. Ravindran  
Max Ng Chee Weng  
Murgiana Haq  
Soh Kar Liang  
Tan Kee Leng  
Tasneem Haq  
Tang Li Ling Yvonne

## Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

The Intellectual Property Practice Committee (the "Committee") was engaged in the following activities during the reporting period from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015.

### 1. Consultations

The Committee was consulted and actively involved in a number of important consultations, including the following:

- Public consultation by IPOS on Proposed Changes to Singapore's IP laws to allow for Enhanced Border Measures in relation to IP-infringing Goods and the Right of Remuneration for the Broadcast, Playing or Performing of Sound Recordings in Public;
- Consultation by IPOS on the IPOS Registry Of Designs Guidelines On Graphical User Interfaces;
- Review of the Trade Mark Dispute Resolutions Regime by IPOS in relation to the Circulars on Evidentiary Issues and Full Hearings; and
- Industry consultation by the Ministry of Law of the draft bill for the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules 2015.

### 2. Seminar on Intellectual Property Disputes – Arbitration or Litigation

The Committee and the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee collaborated to organise a seminar titled "Intellectual Property Disputes – Arbitration or Litigation" on 31 August 2015. The seminar aimed to provide a better understanding of common issues in IP disputes; the benefits and limitations of resolving IP disputes through arbitration; the relative duration and costs of arbitration and litigation; as well as insights into why Singapore offers an appropriate seat for the resolution of IP disputes.

### **3. Law Society Annual CPD Day – IP Session**

The Committee conducted an IP session during the Law Society's CPD Day on 20 November 2014 which covered topics such as privacy in the digital age and discussions on the World Sport Group case and the St Regis case.

### **4. Dialogues**

The Committee engaged in regular dialogues with the Courts and IPOS, with the aim of contributing towards the development of the legal regime and practice of intellectual property in Singapore. The Committee also organised a tea session for the IPOS trademarks examiners and patent examiners on 19 May 2015.

The Committee was invited by the Ministry of Law and IPOS in February 2015 to appoint a representative to the review committee for Singapore's Intellectual Property Dispute Resolution Framework which involves enhancing the existing framework by taking into consideration international developments, standards and practices and making recommendations on improving accessibility for individuals and SMEs.

“ The Committee engaged in regular dialogues with the Courts and IPOS, with the aim of contributing towards the development of the legal regime and practice of intellectual property in Singapore. ”

# International Relations

*Lok Vi Ming, SC, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Lok Vi Ming, SC - Chairperson  
 Chung Ka Kay Katie - Council Representative  
 Abigail Dawes  
 Amira Budiitano  
 Andre Arul  
 Anusha Prabhakaran  
 Asiyah Arif  
 Cheryl Chua  
 Edward Tay  
 Ervin Tan  
 Gerald Chien-Yi Kuppasamy  
 Khyati Raniwala  
 Kishan Pillay  
 Lynn Ariel Soh  
 Nandhu  
 Nang Su Wai  
 Nicholas Thio Syn Wei  
 Nomita Nair  
 Prakash Pillai  
 Rajenthiran Arumugam  
 Ramesh Selvaraj  
 Supreeta Suman  
 Tan Teik Yu Mark  
 Yoga Vyjayanthimala  
 Yasmeen Jamil Marican

## Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh

## 1. Hosting Visitors

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

- a. 22 October 2014 – The Honourable Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng, Chief Justice of South Africa
- b. 24 November 2014 – Delegation from Guangxi Lawyers Association
- c. 26 November 2014 – Delegation from Chongqing Lawyers Association
- d. 9 January 2015 – Delegation from Daini Tokyo Bar Association
- e. 16 March 2015 – The Right Honourable Professor Sir Bernard Rix, former Lord Justice of Appeal, Court of Appeal of England & Wales
- f. 18 March 2015 – Delegation from Taipei Bar Association
- g. 19 March 2015 – President of Bar Council Australia, Mr Duncan McConnel
- h. 19 March 2015 – Vice-President of International Affairs of Korean Bar Association, Ms Younghee Jo
- i. 10 April 2015 – Delegation from the Japan Federations of Bar Associations
- j. 22 May 2015 – Mr Andrew Caplen, the President of Law Society of England & Wales
- k. 22 June 2015 – Mr Susumu Murakoshi, President of Japan Federations of Bar Associations and a delegation from the Bar Association

## 2. Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU")

To promote and strengthen cooperation between the Law Society and overseas bar associations and to promote exchanges between Singapore lawyers and lawyers in overseas jurisdictions, the Society signed the following MOU during the period of reporting:

- a. 24 November 2014 - with Guangxi Lawyers' Association
- b. 9 December 2014 - with Shenzhen Lawyers Association
- c. 18 December 2014 - with Korean Bar Association
- d. 25 March 2015 - with Daini Tokyo Bar Association
- e. 22 June 2015 - with Japan Federation of Bar Associations

At the time of writing this report, the Law Society is considering signing an MOU with the Taiwan Bar Association and Myanmar Bar Council.



*Delegation from Daini Tokyo Bar Association*

### 3. Seminars and Conferences

#### *Seminar*

Arising from the MOU with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations on 22 June 2015, a seminar titled "Globalisation of Legal Practice – An Asian Perspective" was co-organised in Singapore by the Law Society and Japan Federation of Bar Associations for the benefit of both

#### *Biennial Lecture 2015*

The last Biennial Lecture was held in 2013 where 2 guest speakers from the Malaysian Bar Council, Christopher Leong and Ambiga Sreenevasan, were invited to speak. At the time of writing this report, the Committee is preparing for the next Biennial Lecture to be held later this year. More details on the speaker and topic will be released when finalised.

### 4. Overseas Missions

#### *Myanmar*

Following the successful Mission to Myanmar in 2014, the Society decided to partner Spring Singapore to organise another Mission to Myanmar. The Mission was originally planned for June 2015 but was postponed due to unforeseen circumstance. We will announce the details of the Mission once confirmed.

#### *India*

The Society will be jointly organising a Mission to India with the Ministry of Law in September 2015. The objective of the Mission is to promote Singapore as a hub for dispute resolution services. As part of the Mission, a seminar to interact with the business community and an evening networking event to engage with members of the Indian Bar will be organised.



*Eblast to members on Mission to India*

### 5. Opening of the Legal Year ("OLY")

The Committee will be assisting the Council to plan an OLY programme and members of the Committee will act as liaison officers for visiting overseas bar leaders.

# Muslim Law Practice

*Ahmad Nizam Bin Abbas, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Ahmad Nizam Bin Abbas - Chairperson  
 Abdul Rahman Bin Mohd Hanipah - Vice-Chairperson  
 Simran Kaur Toor - Council Representative  
 Aishah Winter  
 Aziz Tayabali  
 Ferzana Fareen Haq  
 Halijah Binte Mohamad  
 Murgiana Haq  
 Nur Liyana Binte Mohamed Sinwan  
 Norashikin Kamal  
 Siti Ai'shah Binte Md Yussoff  
 Yasmeen Jamil Marican  
 Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim

## Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

Between the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, the Muslim Law Practice Committee (the "Committee") was active in the following initiatives:

### 1. Seminars

The Committee organised a seminar in January 2015 on the topic of "Arbitration in Islamic Finance". Zhulkarnain from the Committee and Mr Faizal Ahmad Manjoo (a Shariah scholar, solicitor, and an academic specialising in Islamic law and Finance) presented at this seminar.

As a continuity from 2014, the Committee also held a seminar on "Introduction to Muslim Inheritance Law" in June 2015, in collaboration with the Probate Practice and Succession Planning Committee. The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Halijah Binte Mohamad presented on the topic "Overview on Muslim Inheritance & Succession Laws and Practical Aspects of Muslim Inheritance".

### 2. Feedback on Administration of Muslim Law Act ("AMLA")

The Committee reviewed the AMLA and proposed amendments which, upon Council's approval, were sent to the Minister for Communications and Information & Minister-in-Charge of Muslim Affairs, Associate Professor Dr Yacoob Ibrahim, the Syariah Court, Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura and the Registry of Muslim Marriages.

### 3. Monthly Pre-Divorce Briefings at Syariah Court ("Projek Iltizam")

Members of the Committee, together with other practitioners, continue to volunteer at the Syariah Court's monthly pre-divorce briefings held on the last Saturday of each month. These volunteers explain divorce processes and proceedings to the participants, focusing mainly on the forms and details to be completed.

4. Singapore Council of Women's Organisations ("SCWO') Monthly Legal Clinics

Members of the Committee, along with other practitioners from the Bar, continue to volunteer and assist in giving legal advice to members of the public at the SCWO's legal clinics every month.

5. Proposed Family Law Practitioner Accreditation Scheme ("FLP Accreditation Scheme')

The Committee provided feedback on the proposed FLP Accreditation Scheme, in particular the proposed method of assessment for draft syllabus on Muslim Family Law.

6. Dialogues with the Syariah Court

The Committee continues its current practice of engaging in regular dialogues with the Syariah Court, with the main objective of improving the practice of Muslim law in Singapore.



Publicity for Singapore Council of Women's Organisations Monthly Legal Clinics via TV display units at the Bar Rooms



Members of the Muslim Law Practice Committee

# Personal Injury/Property Damage

*Teo Weng Kie, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Teo Weng Kie - Chairperson  
 Renuka d/o Karuppan Chettiar - Vice-Chairperson  
 Lisa Sam Hui Min - Council Representative  
 Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim  
 Archana Chandrasekaran  
 Constance Margreat Paglar  
 Jayaprakash s/o Thiyagarajan  
 Khaira Akramjeet Singh  
 Kripal Singh Sharma  
 Lin Hui Yin Sharon  
 Namasivayam Srinivasan  
 Nirmala Ravindran  
 Paul Yap Tai San  
 Raphael Louis  
 Roger Yek Nai Hui  
 Shahira Binte Mohd Anuar  
 Vivienne Kaur Sandhu  
 Willy Tay Boon Chong

## Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

The PIPD Committee has had a busy year.

Considerable time and effort was spent on looking into a Law Society Arbitration Scheme ("LSAS") for NIMA claims as an alternative to the present FIDREC Scheme (which applies to PPD claims worth \$3,000/- and below). This is to facilitate clients who are unable to represent themselves at FIDREC proceedings. Thus far, the PIPD Committee has consulted with the Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") Committee and has decided to utilise the existing LSAS Scheme with modifications. Further, LSAS is already mentioned in the State Courts' FIDREC Protocol. At the time of writing the decision is to proceed with a feasibility study for the scheme, by doing a survey amongst practitioners, mainly on the issue of whether a critical mass of mediators and arbitrators with proper training can be built and whether the practitioners and their clients will bring their cases. The Committee will also continue consultations with the ADR Committee.

The PIPD Committee consulted with the Supreme Court and the Singapore Mediation Centre ("SMC") on setting up the Formal Neutral Evaluation Scheme for large-value personal injury claims, so as to promote fair resolution and savings of legal costs for all. A survey has been conducted by the SMC and the decision is to proceed with a pilot scheme.

The PIPD Committee has given guidance on queries from members of the Bar. In one query, the Committee rejected the idea of the Law Society providing guidance for the charging of solicitor and client costs ("SNC") for personal injury claims arising from industrial accidents. The Committee was of the view that the Law Society could not intervene due to anti-competition laws. In another query, the Committee also rejected the introduction of executive oversight on SNC costs, similar to Road

Traffic claims. This was a matter for Parliament. The member also did not provide any evidence of foreign or local workers being over-charged. Therefore, the Committee saw no reason to recommend a study into the need for such intervention.

Two Committee members participated in discussions between members of the Council of the Law Society (the "Council") and certain NGOs concerning alleged over-charging of foreign workers by law firms, as well as other concerns surfaced by the NGOs. Both members agreed with the views of the Council that the NGOs and the foreign workers should file a complaint with the Law Society if there was any credible evidence of misconduct, rather than generally airing their concerns over the press.

The PIPD Committee consulted with the General Insurance Association ("GIA") Motor Insurance Bureau Committee with respect to certain practices of the Bureau in rejecting claims for accidents caused or contributed by an unknown motorist.

The PIPD Committee consulted with the Public Trustee's office (the "PT") regarding agreement on SNC costs for cases that fell within the PT's jurisdiction. It was the view of the Committee that where lawyers sought an enhancement of SNC costs, the PT often asked questions more relevant to the quantification of PNP costs. The PT and the Committee are thus working on a template application form to guide both the sender (law firms) and receiver (PT) in order for both sides to properly address questions of SNC costs.

During meetings with the GIA Motor Committee, the PIPD Committee also received feedback concerning a possible need for a NIMA (Non-injury Motor Accident) Protocol to better facilitate pre-repair inspections and enhance their usefulness in preserving the evidence. The said Protocol is efficacious on the point but certain practices on the ground are said to be obstructing the smooth preservation of the evidence. This matter is still under review.

The Committee is also reviewing the need for revisions to the costs of renting an alternative vehicle when one's car is at the workshop.

The Committee has studied the contingency fee proposal and expressed its views to the Council insofar as the PIPD practice is concerned.

The Committee has discussed the new Supreme Court Costs Guidelines insofar as PIPD work is concerned. The Committee has recommended that the Council represent the interests of the PIPD Bar in expressing the view that the figures stated therein are on the low side.

Two Committee members participated in discussions with the Supreme Court, the State Courts, Attorney-General's Chambers, Ministry of Law, GIA and other stakeholders concerning possible law reform for road traffic claims.



*Members of the Personal Injury / Personal Damage Committee*

# Probate Practice and Succession Planning

*Dr Gopalan Raman, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Dr Gopalan Raman – Chairperson  
 Goh Kok Yeow – Vice-Chairperson  
 Parhar Sunita Sonya – Council Representative  
 Kee Lay Lian  
 Lee Chiwi  
 Loh Chiu Cheong Dennis  
 Patrick Tan Tse Chia  
 Sundareswara Sharma  
 Tan-Goh Song Gek Alice  
 Yap Lan Hiang Vicky

## Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

With a view to closely align with the actual scope of work undertaken by the Committee, which includes matters relating to probate and administration as well as succession planning, the Probate Practice Committee was renamed the Probate Practice and Succession Planning Committee (the “Committee”) in September 2014.

For the period September 2014 to August 2015, the Committee was actively participating in the following activities:

### 1. Series of Probate Seminars

As a continued effort from 2014, the Committee organised a series of Probate Seminars in May and June 2015 in collaboration with the Muslim Law Practice Committee, which included topics such as Drafting of Wills, Essentials for Filing Applications, Contentious Probate Matters and Islamic Inheritance.

Apart from the participation of the Committee members, the Committee had the honour of having District Judges Ms Miranda Yeo and Ms Regina Ow from the Family Justice Courts (“FJC”) address the topic “Essentials for Filing Applications”. The Committee wishes to express its gratitude to these two officers. All the seminars were well-attended.



*Seminar on Contentious Probate Procedures*

## 2. Quarterly Dialogues with Family Justice Courts

Since probate proceedings were moved to the FJC from January 2015, the Committee now engages in quarterly dialogues with the FJC on matters relating to Rules and Practice Directions with regard to civil proceedings under the Probate and Administration Act, as well as probate, succession, wills and related matters.

## 3. Consultation

The Committee provided feedback to the Ministry of Law on the draft Professional Conduct Rules 2015.

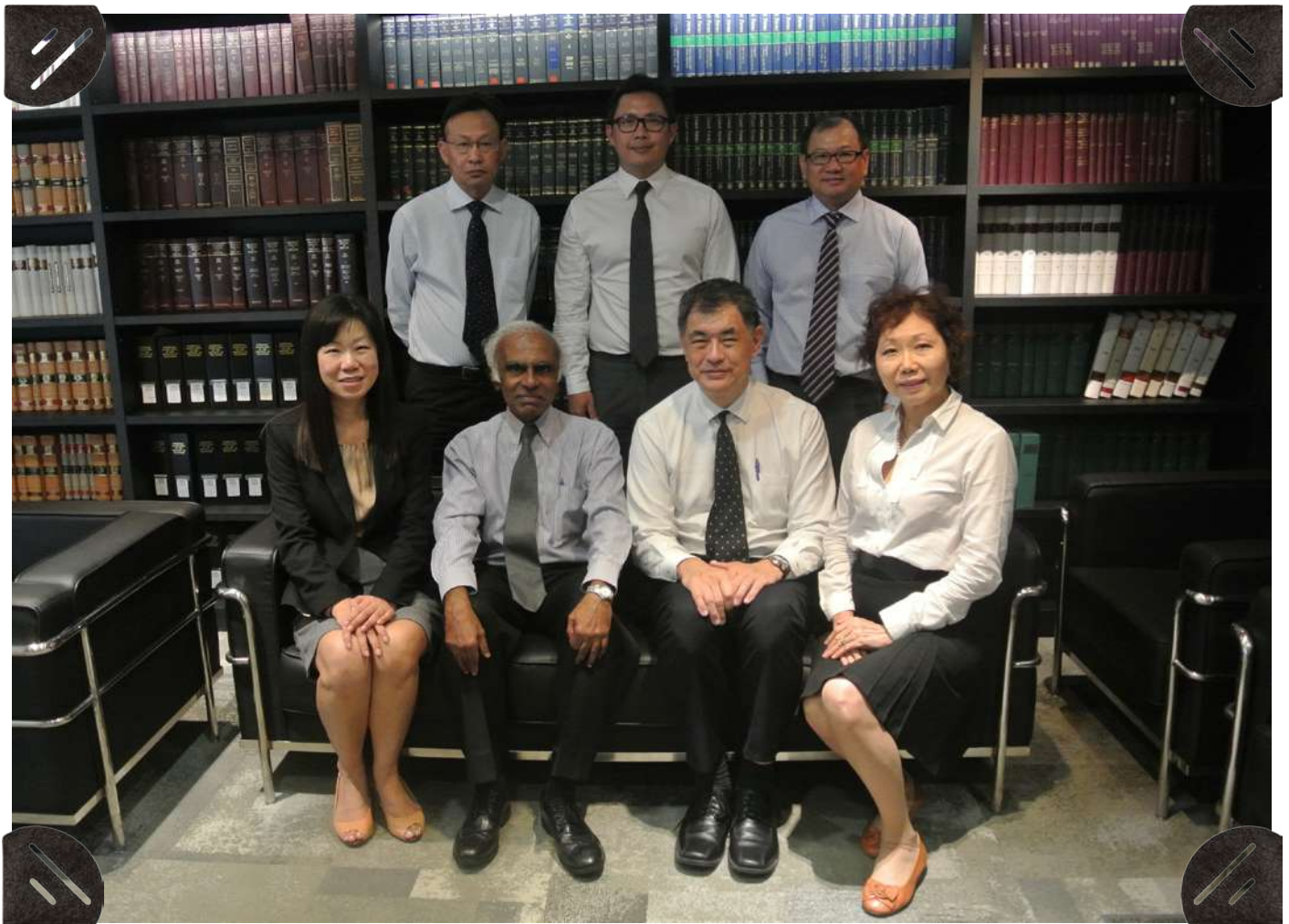
## 4. Representation on External Committees

Dr Raman represents the Committee on the Lasting Power of Attorney Certificate Issuers Review

Committee and the Lasting Framework Review Committee, set up by the Ministry of Social and Family Development.

## 5. Representation on Proposed Professional Deputy Scheme Working Group

Goh Kok Yeow, Kee Lay Lian and Alice Tan-Goh represent the Committee on the Working Group in relation to the proposed Professional Deputyship Scheme, together with representatives from the Ministry of Social and Family Development, the Office of Public Guardian, Law Society's Pro Bono Services Office and the Agency for Integrated Care.



*Members of the Probate Practice and Succession Planning*

# Publications

**Malathi Das, Chairperson** //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Malathi Das – Chairperson  
 Celeste Ang – Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Rajan Chettiar – Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Simran Kaur Toor – Council Representative  
 Benjamin Teo  
 Cameron Ford  
 Debby Lim  
 Evans Ng  
 Kishan Pillay  
 Lye Huixian  
 Marcus Yip  
 Prakash Pillai  
 Shen Xiaoyin  
 Vincent Leow

## Secretariat Representative

Sharmaine Lau

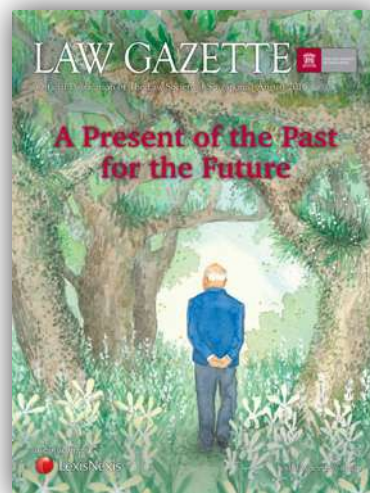
The Publications Committee (the “Committee”) is charged with overseeing the following publications and projects of the Law Society:

### 1. Singapore Law Gazette

The Committee publishes the official monthly magazine of the Law Society, the Singapore Law Gazette, which is available both online and in print. The Committee not only assists in the commissioning, writing and proof-reading of each issue but also curates special thematic issues and comes up with the cover design and tagline for each issue. In the reporting period, we published a themed issue on arbitration in October 2014. A special commemorative issue in August 2015 was produced to mark Singapore’s Golden Jubilee as well as to pay tribute to the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, who was an Honorary Member of the Law Society.

### 2. Law Gazette Awards

The Singapore Law Gazette Awards were introduced in 2013 to recognise our writers for their contributions to the Singapore Law Gazette, and to encourage the writing of good quality articles. We awarded two prizes last year for the best feature articles, including an award for the best feature by a young lawyer. We also published a shortlist of 5 articles that the Committee felt deserved special mention. The Committee, at the

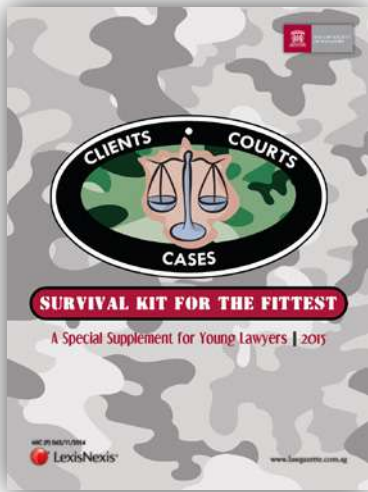


*August 2015 Issue  
of the Law Gazette*

time of writing of this report, is undertaking the nominations for the 2015 awards. The Awards are judged by experienced volunteer judges from the legal profession and academia.

### 3. Mass Call Supplement

Each year, the Committee publishes a supplement for newly-called lawyers which is given out at the annual Mass Call event. This year's supplement, titled "Survival Kit for the Fittest" included articles written by both young and senior lawyers who shared tips on "surviving" and thriving in practice.



*Special Supplement for Young Lawyers*

### 4. Writing Seminar

The Committee will be organising a seminar on legal opinion writing on 17 September 2015. More details will be provided in next year's Annual Report.

### 5. Online Directory of Law Practices and Lawyers

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.

### 6. Specialist Services Directory

The Committee produces the online Specialist Services Directory which carries advertisements by legal support services providers including specialist witnesses. The inaugural issue in 2012 carried 10 advertisements and the number of advertisers has steadily grown, with 20 advertisers in 2014/2015. We hope the Directory will continue to be a useful and valuable resource for lawyers seeking specialist opinions or perspectives, procuring a specialist report or consulting or instructing a specialist in

both contentious and non-contentious matters.

### 7. Annual Report

This year's Annual Report set in sepia monochrome tones, features the old courthouses of Singapore through the decades. The Committee felt a look back at our old courthouses would be a fitting theme to complement the celebration of SG50.

### 8. eJus News

The Committee continues to oversee the weekly e-bulletin, eJus News, which brings the latest and most current practice information, news and related matters to the attention of members.

### 9. Firm Closure Dissemination Service

The Committee continues to provide a service to assist law practices to disseminate notice of holiday/office closures to third party organisations (such as the Courts and government ministries) for a small fee. The service was introduced in January 2013 and has been well received by law practices.

### 10. Preparing for the Law Society's 50th Anniversary Publication

The Society will commemorate its 50th anniversary in 2017 and the Committee has started preparations for the publication by securing sufficient funding for the project, archiving old photographs and organising a sub-committee to work on the project.

This year, the Committee again divided up its work with each component looked after by a sub-committee so that every member has an opportunity to contribute to the thought leadership and creative process behind our publications. I am happy to report that this has resulted in the Committee having met each and every Workplan target for the period of reporting.

I would like to express my appreciation to my Co Vice-Chairs and members of the Committee for their ideas, feedback, contributions and hard work in serving on this Committee and the sub-committees under it. I am also grateful to our Publications Department comprising of Sharmaine Lau and Shirin Kamsir, without whose dedicated support and can-do spirit, the Committee will not be able to produce our deliverables in a timely and efficient manner.

# Public and International Law

*Prakash Pillai, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Prakash Pillai - Chairperson  
Michael Hwang SC - Vice-Chairperson  
Paul Tan Beng Hwee - Council Representative  
Abigail Naomi Dawes  
Lye Huixian  
Nang Su Wai  
Nathaniel Khng  
Vishal Harnal  
Koh Jun Xiang  
Marcus Yip

## Secretariat Representative

Kenneth Goh

The Public and International Law Committee (the "Committee") was established to promote the study and understanding of public law and international law, and to develop awareness and an understanding of the extent of the application of public international law in Singapore.

The Committee organises events to promote and develop an awareness of public law and international law amongst lawyers, the various stakeholders connected to legal services and members of the public.

In previous years, the Committee organised public lectures, seminars and workshops in relation to public law (both constitutional and administrative) and international law (both public and private, including international arbitration).

The Committee organised a seminar on 30 October 2014 on "How International Tribunals Work in Practice". The seminar focused on the International Court of Justice with examples of Singapore's experience in litigating the Pedra Branca case before the Court, the recent judgment in the Cambodia-Thailand Temple of Preah Vihear case and the Indonesia-Malaysia case concerning the islands of Sipadan and Ligitan. The speakers were Professor S. Jayakumar and Mr Rodman Bundy.

This year, the Committee organised the "Administrative & Constitutional Law Conference 2015". The Conference was held on 27 February 2015 and covered the following topics:

- Regulation of Discretionary Powers of State Agencies
- Law and Practice of Administrative Law in Singapore: Arbitrating between the State and the Citizen
- Developments in Constitutional Law in Singapore

There were speakers from the National University of Singapore and Singapore Management University, as well as from overseas, including from Hong Kong, Malaysia and Australia.

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



*Administrative & Constitutional Law Conference 2015*

## Small Law Firms

*Michael S. Chia, Co-Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

*Lisa Sam Hui Min, Co-Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

### Committee Members

Michael S. Chia - Co-Chairperson  
 Lisa Sam Hui Min - Co-Chairperson  
 Tan Jee Ming - Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Alvin Tan Kheng Ann - Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Tien De Ming Grismond - Council Representative  
 Anuradha d/o Krishan Chand Sharma  
 Boey Swee Siang  
 Bryan Manaf Ghows  
 Cheryl Ng Huiling  
 Deepa Raja  
 Daljit Kaur  
 Edward Tay  
 Gloria James-Civetta  
 Ho Chye Hoon  
 Jayaprakash s/o Thiyagarajan  
 Kelvin Chia  
 Lim Joo Toon  
 Ng Keng Chye  
 Pawani Vijai Dharamdas  
 Satwant Singh s/o Sarban Singh  
 Serena Geraldine Lim  
 Tan Heng Khim  
 Wong Soo Chih

### Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

For the reporting period of 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, the Small Law Firms Committee (the "Committee") has continued its collaboration with the State Courts Committee to host a series of luncheons at the State Courts Bar Room. This series was initiated in 2014 and has been received favourably by members who practise in the State Courts. Members were updated on legal practice and practice management matters by volunteer speakers or Secretariat staff. The luncheon sessions were held on 14 January 2015, 13 March 2015, 13 May 2015 and 22 July 2015 and the next two sessions have been scheduled for 18 September 2015 and 18 November 2015.

The Committee, with the assistance of the Continuing Professional Development Department, organised a special intake of the Singapore Mediation Centre course on "Mediation: Strategic Conflict Management for Professionals" at a discounted rate for the benefit of small law firm practitioners. The course was conducted at the Law Society's premises on 13 to 14 July 2015 and 3 to 5 August 2015.


The Committee collaborated with the Personal Data Protection Commission to launch the Law Society Personal Data Protection Act ("PDPA") Legal Advice Scheme (the "Scheme") on 1 June 2015. The Committee's Working Group members Lisa Sam, Michael S. Chia and Tan Jee Ming worked with the Secretariat to develop the Scheme. Under the Scheme, basic legal advice on PDPA compliance would be provided to Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises ("SMEs") during a one-hour consultation with a practitioner from the Scheme's panel.


The Committee participated in consultations, such as that relating to the draft Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules.

Committee members Vijai Parwani, Lisa Sam and Michael S. Chia are members of the Primary Justice Project (“PJP”) Working Committee which has reconvened in 2015. They will represent the Committee in providing support and feedback to the State Courts on the efforts to expand the PJP.



Members of the Small Law Firms Committee





THE LAW SOCIETY  
OF SINGAPORE

You are invited to the

### Small Law Firms and State Courts Committees Luncheon

13<sup>th</sup> March 2015, 12.30pm  
State Courts Bar Room

Dear Member

The Small Law Firms Committee and the State Courts Committee are pleased to invite you to attend the 2nd luncheon of 2015 organised for small law firm practitioners who practise in the State Courts. Members will be able to discuss the latest practice developments, interact with other members and provide feedback on issues that impact the profession. Further topics for discussion at this session will include an introduction to useful and affordable software for law firms and a talk on folder replication and Dropbox.

Details:

Date: Friday, 13 March 2015  
Time: 12.30pm-2.30pm  
Venue: State Courts Bar Room

A halal buffet will be catered with vegetarian options available.

Please click [here](#) to register your attendance. Registration is on a first-come-first-served basis and is subject to a limited capacity of 60 members.

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www.lawsociety.org.sg

Circular to members on Small Law Firms and State Courts Committees Luncheon

## LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME

HELPING SMEs COMPLY WITH THE PDPA

**PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION ACT (PDPA) LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME FOR SMEs**

The Personal Data Protection Act 2012 (PDPA) governs the collection, use, disclosure and care of personal data (PD). Organisations cannot collect, use or disclose PD without proper consent, unless exceptions under the PDPA apply. Organisations who fail to comply with the PDPA may face financial penalties of up to \$1 million or criminal penalties of imprisonment of up to 3 years, or both of up to \$2,000,000.

The PDPA Legal Advice Scheme enables SMEs to gain legal advice during a one-hour consultation with a qualified legal practitioner on their compliance with the PDPA. SMEs will be provided with an initial assessment on their level of compliance with the PDPA and preliminary advice on need for additional legal services.

**WHO CAN APPLY FOR THE SCHEME?**

Companies with an annual sales turnover of under \$200 million or employing less than 200 workers are eligible for the scheme.

### HOW DOES THE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME WORK?

**1** Submission of the online Application Form

**2** Issue a Personal Data Protection Declaration (PDPA) to the Legal Advice Scheme Administrator for consideration and approval by the scheme

**3** A date is set for the one-hour legal advice session

**4** One-hour legal advice session with the qualified legal practitioner on their compliance with the PDPA

#### HOW DO I APPLY FOR THE LEGAL ADVICE SCHEME?

Please contact the Law Society of Singapore at:

[pdpa\\_legal\\_advice@lawsoc.org.sg](mailto:pdpa_legal_advice@lawsoc.org.sg)

Or call 65300247

Hotline hours: Monday to Friday  
9.30am to 5.30pm  
2.00pm to 5.30pm

ADMINISTERED BY: 

SUPPORTED BY: 

Flyer on Personal Data Protection Act (PDPA) Legal Advice Scheme for SMEs

# Social and Welfare

*Chiam Tao Koon, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Chiam Tao Koon – Chairperson  
 Hewage Ushan Saminda Premaratne –  
 Co Vice-Chairperson  
 Yeo Chuan Tat – Co Vice-Chairperson/  
 Council Representative  
 Alex Toh Jun Yong  
 Goh Huijun Adeline  
 Kelvin Koh  
 Lim Jieq Jerrick  
 Lim Shaochun Freddie  
 Low Hong Quan  
 Melissa Jean Peh Shi-Wei  
 Sim Guang Hui Emmanuel  
 Sivarajan C Sivalingam  
 Tan-Goh Song Gek Alice  
 Tyron Luke Tham Yong-Qiang

## Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh

The Social and Welfare Committee (the “SWC”) organises social activities and fosters camaraderie among Law Society members as well as reviews and administers the welfare programmes of the Law Society.

Highlights of the SWC’s work for the period 1 September 2014–31 August 2015 are as follows:

### 1. Organising the Law Society Annual Dinner & Dance 2014

The Law Society held its Dinner & Dance cum Charity Gala at the Marriott Hotel on Friday, 14 November 2014. The Dinner was attended by about 500 guests, including Judges and Judicial Commissioners of the Supreme Court and other distinguished guests.

The Master of Ceremonies for the evening was none other than our own member, the affable Adrian Tan. At the Dinner, two awards were presented – the C C Tan Award and Pro Bono Ambassador Award. The C C Tan Award for 2014 was conferred on Dr Gopalan Raman while the Pro Bono Ambassador Award for 2014/2015 was conferred on Mr Suresh s/o Damodara. Recipients of other awards such as 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 invited to the dinner.

The band, comprising of some of our very own lawyers entertained throughout the Dinner and belting out all-time favourites of Moulin Rouge.

A booth was set up at the reception area by the Pro Bono Services Office to highlight the “Justice for All” initiative which aims to increase the collaboration and engagement between lawyers and the wider community. A silent ballot at the Dinner as well as sales of charity tables were held to raise funds for it and the “Just Walk” initiative.

## 2. Organising the DeepaRaya Luncheon 2014

In celebration of Deepavali and Hari Raya Haji, the DeepaRaya Luncheon 2014 was held on 20 November 2014 at the Bar Room of the State Courts of Singapore and was well attended by more than 70 members.

## 3. Organising the Lunar New Year Luncheon 2015

Members of the Bar gathered at the State Courts' Bar Room on 5 March 2015 for the traditional "lo-hei" and sumptuous buffet lunch to celebrate and welcome the year of the sheep.



*Lunar New Year Luncheon*

## 4. Organising the Escape Room Challenge

The SWC plans to organise a social/sports event every year going forward. This year, the SWC has set its sights on an Escape Room Challenge. At the time of writing this report, the event is likely to take place on 18 September 2015. Members will be invited to form teams and conquer the challenges by pitching their brains and wits together. Drinks will follow after for the winning team to celebrate and for the rest to share their joy. Look out for next year's annual report for more details of the event.

## 5. Organising the Closed Door Preview Session with Breitling

The SWC will be working with Breitling to bring members an exclusive closed door preview on 25 September. It will be held at Breitling's premises at Palais Renaissance. Members will get to feast their eyes on the 2015 Novelties series while they mingle with peers over champagne and canapés. More details of the event will be available in next year's report.

## 6. Organising the Annual Dinner & Dance 2015

The annual Law Society Dinner & Dance will be held on 13 November at Marina Mandarin Singapore. The SWC Dinner & Dance Sub-Committee has put in extensive effort to prepare for this anticipated event in the legal profession's social calendar, particularly in celebration of Singapore's Golden Jubilee!



*Annual Dinner & Dance 2014*

## 7. Administering Applications to the Bar Memorial Scholarship and Welfare Schemes

The SWC reviews applications received for the Bar Memorial Scholarship and makes recommendations to Council in relation to applications received. To-date, no new applications have been received. The SWC also continues to oversee the maintenance of the Bar Rooms of the Supreme Court and State Courts of Singapore.

# Solicitors' Accounts Rules

*Gary Allen Pryke, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Gary Allen Pryke - Chairperson  
 Mimi Oh Kim Heoh - Vice-Chairperson  
 Usha Chandradas - Council  
 Representative  
 Chew Kei-Jin  
 Low Chai Chong  
 Michael S Chia  
 Patrick Tan  
 See Chern Yang  
 Tang See Chim  
 Vivienne Lim  
 Yap Teong Liang

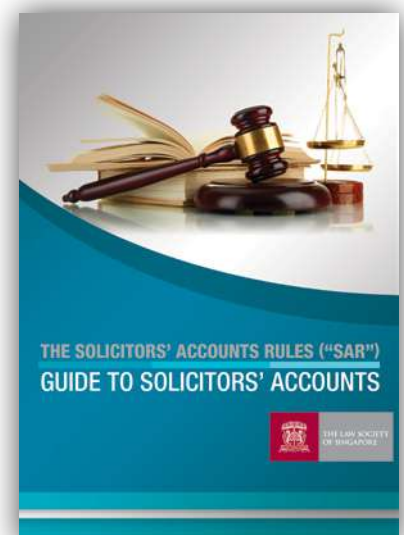
## Secretariat Representative

Ambika Rajendram

In the year under review, the Solicitors' Accounts Rules Committee (the "Committee") received several queries on various issues arising from the Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules ("SA Rules"). Some of these are highlighted below:

1. A member wanted to know if monies that were being collected as rental on an on-going basis and which are the subject of a litigation matter could be held by the lawyers for the parties involved in the litigation in a joint account and held in that joint account pending the outcome of the litigation proceedings.

The Committee replied to the member stating that Rule 9 (1)(c) of the SA Rules permits client's money to be paid into a separate bank account in the name of the client or of some person designated by the client provided that such an agreement is made in writing. The Committee cautioned, however, that he should ensure that the agreement is made in writing and the client is duly advised that such a separate bank account will not be covered by the regulatory regime under the SA Rules which has strict requirements on the management of money paid into a client account and also will not be covered by the audit requirements for money



*Guide to Solicitors' Accounts*

held and received into the client account under the Legal Profession (Accountant's Report) Rules. In view of the latter, the member was requested to assess if, as a matter of prudence, the client should be advised of the option of seeking independent legal advice on the matter.

2. A law firm asked if their accounting records which are required under Rule 11(6) of the SA Rules to be kept for 6 years, may be kept in digital format, i.e. by scanning the paper records and storing the same in PDF or JPEG or other format in a computer disk, thereby replacing the paper records.

The Committee decided that having regard to Rule 11(5) of the SA Rules which allows for a computerised system of book-keeping so long as the book-keeping records are stored in printable form, the accounting records may be kept in a digital form so long as the contents can be printed out. The Committee highlighted to the member that reference should also be made to the provisions of the Evidence Act and other rules of evidence relating to the issue of general admissibility and proof of such electronic copies being true copies of the hard copy books.

3. Another member had a dispute over fees and wanted to know what he should do if a bill was issued and there was an objection by the client to the bill being paid by set off against a deposit. The Committee replied that in view of the objection from the client, the money would have to remain in the client account pending resolution of the client's objection.
4. A law corporation was faced with a situation where client money belonging to 5 former clients was to remain in their client account even though the law corporation was no longer acting for these former clients. This was because the lawyer-in-charge and former director intended to start his own law practice and obtain exemption from providing an accountant's report as he did not intend to hold client monies. The former clients had consented to the arrangement.

The Committee was of the view that subject to

ensuring that proper mandates were obtained from the former clients for the arrangement and compliance with the Legal Profession (Deposit Interest) Rules by the law corporation, the arrangement did not contravene the SA Rules. While the relevant matters may be transferred to the outgoing director, the former clients would remain the "clients" of the law corporation under the SA Rules for the purpose of ensuring that the monies are held in accordance with the SA Rules.

Besides answering queries, the Committee was also engaged in the following activities:

1. A representative from the Committee participated as a panel speaker in the annual Mandatory Book-Keeper's course organised by the Law Society.
2. The Committee completed the update of the Law Society's Guide to the SA Rules (the "Guide") which was launched in May this year. The Guide is available to members at <http://www.lawsociety.org.sg/forMembers/ResourceCentre/EShop/Store.aspx>. The Committee has also compiled a list of guidance on queries provided to members which is available on the Society's website under "Guidance on Professional & Practice Issues" <http://www.lawsociety.org.sg/forMembers/ResourceCentre/MembershipBenefits/GuidanceonProfessionalPracticeIssues.aspx>. This will be updated progressively.
3. The Committee further provided its views to Council on a proposal to amend Rule 2(2) of the Legal Profession (Deposit Interest) Rules. Council has adopted the recommendations and has made representations for the amendment.



*Members of the Solicitors' Accounts Rules Committee*

# Sports

**Laura Liew, Chairperson** //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Laura Ann Liew Ai Ling - Chairperson  
 Tan Xu Teng - Vice-Chairperson (from 1 January 2015)  
 Tang Bik Kwan Hazel - Vice-Chairperson (until 31 December 2014)  
 Lisa Sam Hui Min - Council Representative (from 1 January 2015)  
 Lee Terk Yang - Council Representative (until 31 December 2014)  
 Aylwin Tan Wee En  
 Bala Chandran s/o A Kandiah  
 Brown Anthony Pereira  
 Chan Lai Foong  
 Chen Yixin Edith  
 Chiam Tao Koon  
 Chung Weijian Brandon (from 1 January 2015)  
 Daphne Jansz (from 1 January 2015)  
 Eddy Hirono (from 1 January 2015)  
 Eunice Chew (until 31 December 2014)  
 Felix Lee Shih Yang  
 Foo Xunyu (until 31 December 2014)  
 Jacintha Thannimalai  
 Jasmin Kaur (until 15 December 2014)

Kemmy Teng Zi Ping  
 Lee Hock Yin, Samuel (from 10 March 2014)  
 Lim Siew Kuan  
 Liow Wang Wu Joseph  
 Moiz Haider Sithawalla  
 Muhamad Imaduddin Bin Abdul Karim  
 Nakoorsa Bin Abdul Kadir (from 5 March 2015)  
 Norman Teo (from 27 May 2015)  
 Ong Shu-Wen  
 Ravin Periasamy  
 Tan Cheow Hung  
 Tan Ngee Wee Ervin (from 1 January 2015)  
 Tan Yu Hang (from 1 January 2015)  
 Teng Po Yew (from 1 January 2015)  
 Toh Hui Lin Desiree (from 1 January 2015)  
 Valmiki Nair  
 Wee Heng Yi Adrian  
 Wong Foong Wee  
 Wong Woon Kwong  
 Zheng Yujie Matthew (until 6 February 2015)

## Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh



*Members of the Sports Committee with the Judges' Cup*

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

An active Committee of dedicated members, we are proud to have won the 2015 Annual Malaysia-Singapore Bench & Bar Games which were held in Singapore from 30 April to 2 May 2015. All 18 sports (of which 3 were friendly) were closely competed by Team Malaysia and Team Singapore. Team Singapore emerged victorious with a score of 9.5 to 5.5.

The Sports Committee also organised or participated in 12 additional sporting events between 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015:

1. The Inter-Professional Games ("IPG"), comprising teams from the Law Society of Singapore ("LSS"), Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants ("ISCA"), Singapore Medical Association, Institution of Engineers ("IES"), Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers, and Singapore Institute of Architects, was held from July 2014 to 18 October 2014. The sports played were Badminton, Basketball, Bowling, Chess, Golf, Pool, Soccer, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis, and Volleyball. ISCA won the IPG while LSS and IES placed second and third respectively.
2. The Law Society's Badminton team played friendly matches (which we lost) with a Badminton club led by Mr David Qi on 3 September 2014.
3. The Annual Johore Bar-Law Society Games were hosted by the Johore Bar Committee on 11 October 2014. The sports played were Badminton, Golf, Netball, Pool, Soccer and Table Tennis. The Law Society emerged as champions.
4. The Annual Singapore-Penang Football Match was held in Phuket, Thailand on 25 October 2014. The match was won by Team Singapore with a score of 2-1.
5. The 2014 Annual Piala Pala 9-Pin Bowling Tournament was held on 22 November 2015 at West Bowl. Team State Courts 1 (Karen Lin, Tham Yeong Shin, Phelycia Chan) emerged as champions while Team Pinkiller (Richard Tan, Eudrina Yeo, Ron Alvin Soh) and Team Drew & Napier (Terence Tan, Lin Wei Hong, Yap Hap Jin) came in second and third respectively.
6. The 2nd edition of the Volleyball Tripartite Games comprising teams from the Law Society of Singapore ("LSS"), Law Society of Hong Kong ("LSHK") and Malaysian Bar Council ("MBC"), were held in Singapore 6 December 2014. LSHK emerged as the champion with LSS and MBC placed second and third respectively.
7. The Law Fraternity Games played by the Law Society of Singapore ("LSS") and law students from National University of Singapore ("NUS") and Singapore Management University ("SMU") took place between 17 to 24 January 2015. The sports played were Badminton, Men's Basketball, Frisbee, Handball, Men's and Ladies Floorball, Netball, Pool, Men's and Ladies' Soccer and Touch Rugby. LSS won the Law Fraternity Games while NUS and SMU came in second and third respectively.
8. The Law Society's Badminton team played friendly matches with teams from the Ministry of Manpower, Yong An Park Badminton club led by Mr Dennis Goh and another badminton club led by Mr Low Kee Yang on 21 January 2015, 22 April 2015 and 8 July 2015 respectively. The Law Society won all three encounters.
9. The Law Society's Badminton team played friendly matches (and won) with the Lawyers Council of Thailand in Bangkok on 31 January 2015.
10. The Annual Law Fraternity Golf Tournament 2015 took place on 10 April 2015 at Keppel Club. Adrian Wee won the Knowles Cup, Lai Mun Onn won the Wee Chong Jin Cup and Yam Wern Jhien won the C C Tan Cup.
11. The Annual Lawyers-Doctors Soccer Tournament was held on 7 June 2015. The doctors won the match with a score of 3 to 2.
12. The local Bench & Bar Games 2015 where Badminton is contested between members of the Bench and Bar were held on 11 July 2015. The Bar won with a score of 5 to 0.



*Championship trophy being presented to Aylwin Tan, member of the Sports Committee 2015*

# Young Lawyers

Wong Yi, Chairperson

## Committee Members

Wong Yi – Chairperson  
 Choo Zheng Xi – Vice-Chairperson  
 Tien De Ming Grismond – Council Representative  
 Freddie Lim Shaochun  
 Goh Huijun Adeline  
 Jerrick Lim  
 Khyati Raniwala  
 Low Hong Quan  
 Nadia Ui Mhuimhneachain  
 Nandhu  
 Nang Su Wai  
 Nirev Shah  
 Oon Guohao Jonathan  
 Sarita Misir  
 Subir Singh Grewal  
 Thng Shin Min  
 Vikram Ranjan Ramasamy

## Secretariat Representative

Shawn Toh

The Young Lawyers Committee (“YLC”) focuses on addressing the needs and concerns of members in the “Junior Category”, i.e. those with less than 7 years of experience in practice, which is a large sector of the membership.

This year, the YLC continued its contribution to a monthly column in the Singapore Law Gazette, titled “The Young Lawyer” and every month, our “Amicus Agony” addressed the various concerns raised by young practitioners in relation to the realities of legal practice. In addition, the YLC encouraged young practitioners to share their experience outside of legal practice by way of article contributions.



The Young Lawyer Column in the Singapore Law Gazette

On behalf of Council, the YLC supported the IBA's "Fundamentals of International Legal Business Practice" Conference which was held in Singapore on 18 March 2015 at Marina Bay Sands, with Chairperson giving the closing remarks at the conference.

The YLC has also partnered the Singapore Medical Association to organise the Annual Lawyer-Doctor Networking Session 2015, a popular event exclusive to both organisations, on 1 July 2015 at Lexus Boutique which attracted more than 150 participants.

As part of its annual tradition, YLC hosted the Mass Call Reception on 22 August 2015 at Singapore Expo to welcome and congratulate the newest members to the legal profession. The YLC also sponsored a photo booth for the newly called members to commemorate Mass Call 2015.

Some members of the YLC have also assisted as trainers at the Mandatory Ethics Course for Part B students.

Last but not least, the YLC wishes to express its appreciation to all who have been supportive of YLC activities.



*Annual lawyer-doctor networking session*



**enhancing professional standards**

Old Traffic Court building at Outram Road

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# Admissions

Christopher Anand Daniel, Chairperson

## Committee Members

- Christopher Anand s/o Daniel – Chairperson
- Rajan Sanjiv Kumar – Vice-Chairperson
- Parhar Sunita Sonya – Council Representative
- Chan Hian Young
- Matthew Saw Seang Kuan
- Nair Suresh Sukumaran
- Pillai Pradeep
- Quek Hui Kee Jasmine
- Tan Teck San Kelvin
- Tan Teik Yu Mark

## Secretariat Representative

Kenneth Goh

This report is in respect of the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015.

**Admission of Advocates and Solicitors**  
A total of 662 applicants were admitted as advocates and solicitors of the Supreme Court of Singapore compared to 538 applicants who were admitted during the last reporting period. For the Mass Call held on 22 August 2015, 535 applicants were admitted. This is an increase from the 430 applicants admitted in the 23 August 2014 Mass Call.

**Part-Call Applications**  
There were 47 applications for part-call for this reporting period, compared to 16 applications during the last reporting period. Out of the 47 applications, 44 were allowed and 3 were dismissed by the High Court. The dismissal was due to:

- (a) the practice trainee not having completed Part B of the Singapore Bar Examinations and not having an equivalent level of knowledge and training in 1 application; and
- (b) the applications not being made by the practice trainees’ supervising solicitor in the other 2 applications.

**Section 15(1) Legal Profession Act - Ad hoc Admissions of Queen’s Counsel**  
In the present reporting period, the Committee has considered 1 application for the ad hoc admission of Queen’s Counsel (“QC”) under the provisions of section 15(1) of the Legal Profession Act. The application was for the ad hoc admission of Heather Rogers, QC (OS No. 532/2015), which was heard by Justice Steven Chong and dismissed on 11 June 2015.

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

In the present reporting period, the Committee has considered 2 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.

In 1 of the applications, the prospective employee made a complaint against her former employer to the Society. Due to the complaint and the allegations that have been made and responded to by the former employer, Judicial Commissioner Chua Lee Ming dismissed the application.

The other application was granted by the High Court with conditions and/or undertakings imposed on the applicant.



*Mass Call 2015*

# Anti-Money Laundering

Low Chai Chong, Chairperson //////////////////////////////////////

Committee Members

Low Chai Chong - Chairperson  
Lim Seng Siew – Vice-Chairperson  
Lam Kuet Keng Steven - Council Representative  
Barbara Voskamp  
Gary Allen Pryke  
Godwin Gilbert Campos  
Moiz Haider Sithawalla  
Renu Rajan Menon  
Sundareswara Sharma  
Tan I-Jin  
Tan Kay Kheng  
Yashodhara Dhoraisingam

Secretariat Representative

Kenneth Goh  
Daniel Tan

The Anti-Money Laundering Committee (the “Committee”) assists Council of the Law Society in the consultations with the Ministry of Law on issues concerning the anti-money laundering (“AML”) and counter terrorist financing (“CFT”) requirements applicable to the legal profession.

The Committee also provides guidance to members on the AML/CFT practice rules. To develop awareness and understanding of the AML/CFT requirements amongst members, the Committee organises seminars.

2015 has been a busy year for the Committee, preparing and responding to new AML/CFT legislation. Part VA of the Legal Profession Act and the Legal Profession (Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism) Rules came into effect in May 2015. Prior to the legislation taking effect, the Committee gathered input from members on the draft Rules, and after the Rules came into effect in May 2015, the Committee followed up to generate awareness of the new legislative framework. In July 2015, an article



Circular on the Society's Practice Direction on the Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism 2015

was published in the Singapore Law Gazette; new Practice Directions on the prevention of money laundering and financing of terrorism were drafted and approved by Council; and an AML/CFT seminar was held for members. Further seminars are scheduled for August and November 2015.

Apart from raising awareness, the Committee also plays an integral role in the inspection of law practices. Council of the Law Society ("Council") is empowered to conduct inspections of law practices

in accordance with rule 26 of the Legal Profession (Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism) Rules to ascertain whether the AML/CFT rules are being complied with. The Committee oversees such inspections and advises Council on any issues or queries arising from the inspections.

The Committee will also be involved in interviews with the Financial Action Task Force as part of its inspection process involving the legal sector, in November 2015.

Article by the  
Committee  
published in the  
Singapore Law  
Gazette



# Ethics

Ang Cheng Hock, SC, Chairperson //////////////////////////////////////

Committee Members

Ang Cheng Hock, SC - Chairperson  
Andre Francis Maniam, SC - Vice-Chairperson  
Chiam Tao Koon - Council Representative  
Alvin Tan Kheng Ann  
Chen Yi Jing Alvin  
Edmund Eng  
Eugene Thuraisingam  
Henry Heng Gwee Nam  
Kenneth Lim Tao Chung  
Kenneth Pereira Jerald  
Leo Cheng Suan  
Lim Seng Siew  
Lo Pang Foo Steven  
Max Ng Chee Weng  
Melvin See Hsien Huei  
Philip Fong Yeng Fatt  
Pradeep Pillai  
Young Chee Foong

Secretariat Representative

Delphine Loo Tan

For the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, the Ethics Committee (the “Committee”) received and responded to 2 formal requests from practitioners and assisted the Inquiry Panel, the Muslim Law Practice Committee and the Compliance department with queries on a wide range of professional ethics issues under the Legal Profession Act, the Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules (“PCR”) and the Legal Profession (Publicity) Rules (“Publicity Rules”).

Members of the Committee were involved in various continuing professional development courses including the “Ethics in Practice & Legal Profession (Solicitors’ Accounts) Rules for Practice Trainees” and the 3rd “Mandatory Ethics Programme for Newly Qualified Lawyers”. Volunteers from the Committee also spoke on professional ethics for the 17th “Legal Practice Management Course” which was held in February 2015.



Ethics in Practice & Legal Profession (Solicitors’ Accounts) Rules for Practice Trainees

To keep members updated on ethics issues, the Committee published the following articles in the *Singapore Law Gazette*:

- March 2015: "Commentaries on the Law Society of Singapore's Practice Circular on the Supervision of Paralegals"; and
- August 2015: "You are a Witness, Counsel".

As a new initiative, the Committee decided to set up an Ethics Portal on the Law Society's website this

year. In order to facilitate members' access to Law Society's Practice Directions and Guidance Notes, the Committee decided to topically categorise and host all the Practice Directions and Guidance Notes on the Law Society's website as an open access resource without the need to enter login details.

The Committee also actively participated in the Ministry of Law's Consultation on the draft Legal Profession (Professional Conduct) Rules.



Articles by the Committee published in the Singapore Law Gazette

# 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 2014 to 31 August 2015 under section 75B of the Legal Profession Act (the "Act"). For the relevant period under consideration, 66 complaints were received. Out of the 66 complaints received, 4 complaints were rejected on account that they did not refer to matters which form the ambit of inquiry under section 75B of the Act. In fact, 3 of the complaints referred to matters of alleged misconduct which is dealt with by way of a complaint under section 85(1) of the Act whilst the remaining complaint was against a Patent Agent who is not an advocate and solicitor. Seven complaints were closed on account of the parties being able to directly resolve the dispute between themselves. This is a two-fold increase from the previous years' figure of 2 complaints having achieved that outcome. Another 3 complaints were closed as the complainants reverted that a complaint under section 75B of the Act will not result in the relief sought by them, being variation of Court Orders, review of the settlement amount or reduction in the bill amongst others. As for the remaining complaints, 5 have been stayed as the Complainant(s) have made another complaint under section 85(1) of the Act and current protocol dictates that Council will only make its determination on their complaint under section 75B of the Act when the inquiry into their complaint under section 85(1) of the Act has been concluded.

Save for a total of 10 complaints that had been referred for Council's deliberation, the remaining

complainants have yet to revert with better details and particulars and/or identify the breach of standards of adequate professional services which form the heads of their respective complaints. Further, some complainants have taken a complaint under section 75B to be akin to a general complaint over service quality standards made to a service provider often citing that certain demands and expectations be met. Accordingly, these complainants have been advised of the intent and purpose of a complaint under section 75B of the Act. As it stands, Council is unable to make any determination as to whether there is a prima facie cause of a breach of the standards of inadequate professional services when such requisite details are scant or lacking. Amongst these complaints, 20% arose primarily from disputes over solicitor-client costs and these complainants have been duly advised of their recourse through taxation or through mediation by way of the Law Society's Cost Dispute Resolve Scheme or the Singapore Mediation Centre's Small Case Commercial Mediation Scheme. Of note is the increase of around 8% of complaints in relation to the practice area of Personal Injury Motor Accident Claims whereby the complainants have indicated their unhappiness over the significant deduction for solicitor-client costs vis-à-vis the settlement sum and/or their unhappiness over the settlement quantum. Seven complaints that had been referred for Council's determination have been dismissed as they did not reveal any prima facie case of a breach of the standards of adequate professional services or that the lawyers complained of had provided professional services of a quality reasonably expected of an advocate and solicitor.

**Mediations Conducted from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015**

For the relevant period, 3 mediations were conducted on account of the complainants opting for mediation to resolve their issues with the respondent solicitors. These matters were successfully resolved between the parties with the terms of settlement fully met by the respondent solicitor.

**Investigative Tribunals Appointed from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015**

Of the 12 complaints investigated by the respective Investigative Tribunals during the period under consideration (appointed in the previous period under consideration):-

- Three complaints were withdrawn mutually by the parties as they managed to resolve their dispute prior to the Investigative Tribunals making any determination on the matter;
- Two complaints resulted in the Investigative Tribunals concerned ordering compensation and/or result which directions were complied with; and
- Seven complaints were dismissed as the Investigative Tribunals concerned were unable to make any findings of inadequate professional services in relation to the standards complained of after hearing the submissions of the respondent solicitor.



# Report of the Inquiry Panel

*Philip Jeyaretnam, SC, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

This Report covers the period 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015.

Pursuant to section 84 of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161, 2012 Revised Edition) (the “Act”), the Honourable 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 2015:

### Mr Philip Jeyaretnam, SC - Chairman, Inquiry Panel

1.

Mr Francis Xavier, SC
2.

Mr Grimberg Joseph, SC
3.

Mr Michael Khoo Kah Lip, SC
4.

Mr Davinder Singh s/o Amar Singh, SC
5.

Ms Engelin Teh Guek Ngor, SC
6.

Mr Yeo Khirn Hai Alvin, SC
7.

Mr Andre Yeap Poh Leong, SC
8.

Mr Nehal Harpreet Singh, SC
9.

Mr Cavinder Bull, SC
10.

Mr George Lim Teong Jin, SC
11.

Mr N. Sreenivasan SC
12.

Mr Pathmanaban Selvadurai
13.

Ms Juliet Ang
14.

Ms Oh Buong Yu May
15.

Mr Chim Hou Yan
16.

Ms Lim Yen Lan
17.

Mr Woo Tchi Chu
18.

Mr Chan Chee Pew
19.

Mr Tan Jin Hwee
20.

Mr Sim Yong Chan
21.

Mr Wee Chow Sing Patrick
22.

Mr Prabhakaran Nair
23.

Mdm Helen Tan Cheng Hoong
24.

Mr Tan Denis
25.

Mr Chandra Mohan K Nair
26.

Mr Madan Assomull

27.

Mr Peter Chong Siong Siang
28.

Mr Prem Kumar Gurbani
29.

Mr Govindarajalu Asokan
30.

Mdm Ho Puck Chin Caroline
31.

Mr Seah Teck Kim, Kim
32.

Mr Bernard Doray
33.

Mr Leng Siew Wei Aloysius
34.

Ms Woon Lai Keng (Julie)
35.

Mr Quek Mong Hua
36.

Mr Steven Seah Seow Kang
37.

Mr Raymond Chan
38.

Mr Tan Keok Heng George
39.

Mrs Gina Lee-Wan
40.

Mr Tay Keow Ming
41.

Mr Lee Han Tiong
42.

Mr Yang Yung Chong
43.

Mr John Ng Lee Chye
44.

Mr Cheong Tuck Meng
45.

Ms See Siew Heok Jo-Ann
46.

Mr Lee Kuen Yip
47.

Mr Lim Chen Thor Jason
48.

Mr Gill Dedar Singh
49.

Mdm Susan Mary De Silva
50.

Mr Alban Kang Choon Hwee
51.

Ms Amarjit Kour D/O Balwant Singh
52.

Mr Muthu Arusu Murugayair
53.

Mr Tan Kheng Ann Alvin
54.

Mr Tan Jee Ming
55.

Mr David Yeow
56.

Mr Selva Kumara Naidu
57.

Mr Tay Seong Chee Simon
58.

Mr Cheah Kok Lim (passed away)
59.

Mr Herman Jeremiah
60.

Ms Yip Wai Ping Annabelle
61.

Mr Goh Kok Yeow
62.

Ms Chen Wen Woan Angela
63.

Mdm Sheena Rohini Jacob
64.

Mr Lim Tat
65.

Mr Kok Hei Mun Jonathan
66.

Mr Tan Lay Tiong Anthony
67.

Mr Patrick Ang Peng Koon
68.

Mr Chong Yee Leong
69.

Mdm Elaine Beh Pur-Lin

70. Mr Tan Kay Kheng
71. Mr Tiwary Ramesh Chandr
72. Mr Abdur Raheem Bin Mohd Iqbal
73. Mr Yeo Chuan Seng Victor
74. Mdm Zahara Binte Bakar
75. Mr Surenthiraraj Saunthararajah
76. Mdm Teo Kwee Yee (Claudia)
77. Mr Bernie Neo Ho Guan
78. Ms Lisa Theng Siew Lian
79. Ms Marian Ho Wui Mee
80. Mr Tan Lay Pheng
81. Mr Chan Wai Mun
82. Mr Goh Siong Pheck Francis
83. Mr Lim Ghim Siew Henry
84. Mr Foo Maw Shen
85. Mr Chandra Mohan Rethnam
86. Mr Chooi Yue Wai Kenny
87. Mr Yeo Soo Mong Tony
88. Ms Chan Shu Fung Elaine
89. Mr Lee Wei Yung
90. Mr Amolat Singh
91. Mr Liow Wang Wu Joseph
92. Mr Anparasan s/o Kamachi
93. Mr Parwani Vijai Dharamdas
94. Mr Soh Kar Liang
95. Mr Leck Kwang Hwee Andy
96. Mr Wai Chee Leong Ronnie
97. Mr Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim
98. Mr Sandrasegara Manoj Pillay
99. Mr Andrew Wu Chih Wei
100. Mrs Stefanie Yuen Thio
101. Ms Tan Siew Wei Cheryl
102. Ms Christine Sekhon
103. Mdm Wong Su-Hsien Audrey
104. Mdm Yeow Tin Tin Margaret
105. Mr Rajesh Sreenivasan
106. Mr Renganathan Nandakumar
107. Mr Zaminder Singh Gill
108. Mr Christopher Anand s/o Daniel
109. Mr Tan Teck San Kelvin
110. Mr Lawrence Tan Aik Leng
111. Mr Thomas John
112. Ms Ho Kim Foong
113. Ms Leow Tze Hoon Christabel
114. Mr Philip Fong Yeng Fatt
115. Mr Cosmas Stephen Gomez
116. Mr Nandakumar Ponniya
117. Mr Lim U Wei Ralph Howard
118. Mr Bernard Chiu Hsu-Hwee
119. Mr Gong Chin Nam
120. Mr K Muralitherapany
121. Mr Ajinderpal Singh
122. Ms Lam Shiao Ning
123. Mr Yeo Khee Chye Raymond
124. Mr Khor Guan Yu Gerald
125. Mr Marican Abdul Rahim
126. Mr Michael Low Wan Kwong
127. Ms Subashini d/o Narayanasamy
128. Mr Siraj Omar
129. Ms Dawn Tan Ly-Ru
130. Mr Khaira Akramjeet Singh
131. Mr Ng Kim Beng
132. Mr Gan Kian Koon Gerry
133. Ms Jayne Wong Lok Sim
134. Mr Derek Tan Jet Wah
135. Mr Eusuff Ali s/o N B M Mohamed Kassim
136. Mr Lem Jit Min Andy
137. Mr Chen Chee Yen
138. Mr Samuel Seow Theng Beng
139. Mr Yuen Pei Lur Perry
140. Mr Jeeva Arul Joethy
141. Mr Andrew Ho Yew Cheng
142. Mr Christopher Chong Chi Chuin
143. Mr Kendall Tan Chuan Bing
144. Ms Lau Yee Wan Sharon
145. Mdm Lee Su Yee
146. Mr Low Yew Shen
147. Mr Patrick Tan Tse Chia
148. Mr Ong Sing Huat (Nick)
149. Mr Chia Peng Kiat Kenneth
150. Mr Chan Wei Meng
151. Mr Eugene Singarajah Thuraisingam
152. Mr Howard Cheam Heng Haw
153. Ms Phang Sui Choon (Michelle)
154. Mr Yee Weng Wai Bernard
155. Mr Desmond Tan Yen Hau
156. Ms Seet Siok Lin Noelle
157. Mdm Cheng Su Yin Judy
158. Mr Edmund Eng Zixuan
159. Ms Lim Chen Chen
160. Mr Mark Jerome Seah Wei Hsien
161. Mr Dennis Chua Soon Chai
162. Mr Raymond Lam Kuo Wei
163. Mr Sim Chong
164. Mr Ho Ying Ming
165. Ms Rajan Menon Smitha
166. Ms Tay Hong Ling Mabel
167. Mr Arvind Daas Naaidu
168. Mr Vignesh Napoleon
169. Mr Ee Chong Nam, Andrew

170. Mr Goh Aik Chew
171. Mr Rai Shriniwas
172. Ms Maria Lam Sek Fah (Maria Tham)
173. Mr Ragbir Singh s/o Ram Singh Bajwa
174. Mr Seah Sheng Yong
175. Mr Noor Mohamed Marican
176. Ms Chew Gek Tee Sally
177. Mr Yap Lip Sin Andrew
178. Mr Leong Yew Kee Charles
179. Mr Sarjit Singh s/o Bhagwan Singh
180. Mr Simon Yuen
181. Mr Teo Chee Seng
182. Ms Teo Siew Kim Gwendoline
183. Mr Krishnan Sivanandam
184. Ms Tan Lay Keng
185. Mr Mahtani Naresh Murlidhar
186. Mr Koh Boon Hai
187. Ms Josephine Low Miew Yin
188. Mr Ong Kian Wei Timothy
189. Ms Wong Lai Keen
190. Mr Tan Lam Siong
191. Mr Phua Siow Choon
192. Mr Michael Moey Chin Woon
193. Mr Abdul Jalil Bin Muhammad Tahir
194. Mr Chuang Wei Ping
195. Mr Lee Teck Hai
196. Mr Adrian Ee Hock Hoe
197. Mr Muthu Kumaran s/o Muthu Santhana Krishnan
198. Mr Ravindran s/o Muthucumarasamy
199. Mr Chan Hian Young
200. Mr Thomas Tan Boon Yong
201. Ms Yee May Kuen Peggy Sarah
202. Mr James Leslie Ponniah
203. Mr John Ng Puay Hong
204. Ms Lalita Chelliah
205. Mr Lim Chong Boon
206. Mr Lim Soo Peng
207. Mr Liew Teck Huat
208. Mr Ravendra Krishnasamy
209. Mr Soh Leong Kiat Anthony
210. Mr Brown Anthony Pereira
211. Mr Lawrence Lee Mun Kong
212. Ms Yogarajah Yoga Sharmini
213. Mr Seah Eng Chee Rupert
214. Mr Chong Kuan Keong
215. Mr P Padman
216. Mr Lim Tiang Yao

217. Ms Lee Mong Jen
218. Mr Bernard Sahagar s/o Tanggavelu
219. Ms Nirmala Ravindran
220. Mr Chan Chin Ling
221. Ms Serena Lee Chooi Li
222. Ms Lim Lay Choo Jennifer
223. Mr Loh Eu Tse Derek
224. Mr Ng Chee Weng, Max
225. Mr Henry Heng Gwee Nam
226. Mr Pillai Pradeep G
227. Mr Melvin See Hsien Huei

The following appointees' term will expire on 17 August 2017:

1. Mr Tan Cheng Han, SC
2. Ms Ang Hui Ming Vivian
3. Ms Audrey Ho Swee Lin
4. Mr Bernard Tan Kim Swee
5. Mr Chandrayogan Yogarajah
6. Mr Chia Voon Jiet
7. Mr Chong Keen Loon David
8. Mr Choo Chih Chien Benjamin
9. Ms Corinne Taylor Lai Sze Huei
10. Mr Daryl Ong Hock Chye
11. Mr Dayne Ho Chung Wei
12. Ms Ellen Lee Geck Hoon
13. Mr Gaw Ying Charn Benjamin
14. Mr Goh Kok Leong
15. Ms Grace Kwek Joo Lee
16. Ms Jennifer Leong Pek Lin
17. Mr Joseph Lee Sien Liang
18. Mr Lam Chung Nian
19. Ms Lee Yuen Sum Patricia
20. Mr Lim Arthur Edwin
21. Mr Lim Yee Ming
22. Mdm Linda Phua Mui Lu
23. Mr Ling Daw Hoang Philip
24. Ms Loh Wai Mooi
25. Mr Low Gin Inn Leon
26. Mr Mark Cheng Wai Yuen
27. Mr Mohamed Gul
28. Mr N K Rajarh
29. Mr Navin Joseph Lobo
30. Mr Peh Nam Chuan Adrian
31. Mr Ponnampalam Sivakumar
32. Mr Ramasamy s/o Karuppan Chettiar
33. Mr Richard Tan Kheng Swee
34. Mr Ricquier William John Munden
35. Mr Rodney Keong Kean Soon
36. Ms Salehah Bte Johari

37. Ms Seah Geok Choo @ Seah Quee Choo Alice
38. Ms Selvam Arfat Nee Arfat Beebee Binte Noor Mohamed Abdul Latiff
39. Mr Sunit Chhabra
40. Mr Suresh Divyanathan
41. Mr Tan Hsuan Boon
42. Mr Tan Saey Chong Gadriel
43. Mr Tan Wei Shyan
44. Mr Tan Wen Cheng Adrian
45. Mr Teo Ke-Wei Ian
46. Ms Ting Hi Keng
47. Ms Winnifred Gomez
48. Mr Wong Kin Kit Winston
49. Mr Yeo Kian Wee Andy

The following appointees' term expired on 18 August 2015:

1. Mr Chan Ching Chern Daniel
2. Mr Goh Soon Chye Gavin
3. Mr Kangatharan Kandavellu
4. Mr Koh See Khiang
5. Ms Lim Hon Yi
6. Mr Leong Sheng Shun Kenneth
7. Mr Lin Yu Xuan Terence
8. Mr Neighbour Roy Grenville
9. Ms Sim Jek Sok, Disa
10. Mr Tan Boon Wah
11. Mr Yip Tai Meng Marcus
12. Mr Yusfiyanto Bin Yatiman

## LAY PERSONS

The following appointees' term will expire on 14 December 2015:

1. Mr Ashvinkumar s/o Kantilal
2. Mrs Belinda Charles
3. Mrs Chew Kwee Tiang
4. Mr Chng Beng Guan
5. Mr Chris Liew Peng Fook
6. Dr Goh Chong Chia
7. Mr Goh Ngan Hong
8. Mr Jamshid Medora
9. Mr Ting Kang Chung, John
10. Dr Khoo Chong Yew
11. Mr Kwan Yew Huat
12. Mr Lai Hock Meng
13. Mr Lee Kut Cheung
14. Mr Lim Hon Chee Eric
15. Dr Lim Lan Yuan
16. Mr Loi Hwee Yong

17. Mr Michael Wong C K
18. Mr Mirza Iskander Namazie
19. Dr Ng Kheng Siang
20. Mrs Noor Quek
21. Mr Ong Ser Huan
22. Mr Ong Tze Boon
23. Mr Seah Choo Meng
24. Mr Tan Seng Chuan
25. Dr Tan Tiong Tee Clarence
26. Mdm Teo Meng Hua
27. Dr Teoh Hoon Cheow
28. Mr Tjio Kay Loe
29. Mr Willy Shee
30. Mr Yeo Boon Hon
31. Ms Yim Kam May

The following appointees' term will expire on 15 April 2016:

1. Ms Anju Patwardhan
2. Prof Chiew Sing Ping
3. Asst Prof Daniel Puchniak
4. Assoc Prof Henry Gao
5. Associate Professor Ho Yew Kee
6. Practice Assoc Prof Ian MacDuff
7. Mr John Lim Geok Peng
8. Ms Julia Tay Swan Choo
9. Ms Kuan Li Li
10. Mr Lim Boon Cheng
11. Mr Lim Kim Cheong
12. Er. Lim Peng Hong
13. Mr Lim Thien Su Gerald
14. Mr Han Liang Siew, Louis
15. Mr Ooi Hoe Yang (Danny)
16. Mr Rohan Kamis
17. Practice Assoc Prof Stephen Bull
18. Mr Tan Chor Sen (Christopher)
19. Mr Tan How Chuan (Sam)
20. Mr Tan See Chee
21. Dr Tan Teng Hooi
22. Prof Thio Li-ann
23. Mr Thomas Sit Kwok Wing
24. Er. Tong Chi Wai
25. Asst Prof Umakanth Varottil
26. Assoc Prof Wang Jiangyu
27. Mr Yong Cho Choon James
28. Ms Sirikit Oh
29. Mr Adrian Soh
30. Mr Clarence Ting
31. Dr Christopher Chen Chao-Hung
32. Mr Alvin See Wei-Liang

33. Mr Chua How Kiat
34. Ms Wong Lai Ping
35. Ms Joanne Lim
36. Mr Ding Hock Chai
37. Mr Oh Cheng Kwee, Johnny
38. Prof James Penner
39. Assoc Prof Gary Bell
40. Mr Willie Cheng
41. Mr Andy Tan Chye Guan
42. Dr Loke Chi Wei Peter
43. Dr Abdul Razakjr Bin Omar
44. Dr Wong Chiang Yin
45. Dr Yeo Khee Quan
46. Dr Tan Yuen Lan, Diana

### **LEGAL OFFICERS**

1. Mr Adam Nakhoda
2. Mr Anandan s/o Bala
3. Mr Andy Sim Yock Ann
4. Ms Ang Ching Pin
5. Ms April Phang Suet Fern
6. Mr Benjamin Yim Geok Choon
7. Ms Beverly Wee Ying Ling
8. Mr Bryan Chew Chee Wan
9. Ms Carrie Chan Su-Lin
10. Mr Chan Wang Ho
11. Ms Cheng Pei Feng
12. Ms Chong Chin Chin
13. Mr Chong Kah Wei
14. Mr Christopher Goh Eng Chiang
15. Mr Christopher Ong Siu Jin
16. Mr Christopher Tan Pheng Wee
17. Ms Chung Yoon Joo
18. Ms Cornie Ng Teng Teng
19. Ms Crystal Ong Wai Mun
20. Ms Danielle Yeow Ping Lin
21. Mr David Lee Yeow Wee
22. Mr David Lee Yeow Wee
23. Mr David Lim Hock Choon
24. Mr David Lim Jit Hee
25. Ms Deena Bte Abdul Aziz Bajrai
26. Ms Dorcas Quek Ern Ling
27. Mr Eddy Tham Tong Kong
28. Ms Elena Yeo Ju-Lan
29. Mr Eugene Lee Yee Leng
30. Mr Eugene Teo Weng Kuan
31. Mr Francis Ng Yong Kiat
32. Mr Gilbert Low Teik Seang
33. Mr Gnanasihamani Kannan
34. Ms Hamidah Bte Ibrahim
35. Mr Han Ming Kuang
36. Ms Hee Mee Lin
37. Mr Imran Bin Abdul Hamid
38. Mr Ivan Chua Boon Chwee
39. Mr James Elisha Lee Han Leong
40. Ms Janet Wang Lan Jee
41. Ms Janice Wong Shi Hui
42. Ms Jasbendar Kaur
43. Mr Jason Tan Theng Kok
44. Ms Jasvender Kaur
45. Ms Jean Chan Lay Koon
46. Mr Jeyendran s/o Jeyapal
47. Ms Jocelyn Ong
48. Mr John Ng
49. Mrs Joyce Chao Suling
50. Ms Joyce Low Wei Lin
51. Ms Kamalambigai Ponnampalam
52. Ms Kan Shuk Weng
53. Ms Karen Loh Pei Hsien
54. Ms Kathryn Low Lye Fong
55. Mr Kessler Soh Boon Leng
56. Mr Kevin Ng Choong Yeong
57. Mr Lau Wing Yum
58. Ms Laura Lau Chin Yui
59. Mr Lee Cheow Han
60. Mr Lee Chuan Huei
61. Mr Lee Jwee Nguan
62. Mr Lee Sing Lit
63. Ms Lee Yean-Lin
64. Mrs Lee-Khoo Poh Choo
65. Mr Leonard Goh Choon Hian
66. Mr Leong Kwang Ian
67. Mr Leong Wing Tuck
68. Ms Lim Jen Hui
69. Mrs Lim Su Ching
70. Mr Lim Yew Jin
71. Mr Louis Agnelo D'Souza
72. Ms Low Siew Ling
73. Mr Luke Tan Loke Yong
74. Ms Lynette Yap Beng Lyn
75. Mr Marcus Song Ee Pin
76. Ms Marie Christina Koh Sok Kheng
77. Mr Mark Anand Jayaratnam
78. Mr Mark Tay Swee Keng
79. Mr Marvin Bay Boon Teck
80. Ms May Lucia Mesenas
81. Ms Miranda Yeo Eng Joo
82. Mr Muhammad Hidhir Bin Abdul Majid
83. Ms Nor'ashikin Bte Samdin
- 84.

85. Mr Ong Chin Heng
86. Ms Ong Luan Tze
87. Mr Ow Yong Tuck Leong
88. Mr Paul Chia Kim Huat
89. Mr Peter Koy Su Hua
90. Mr Phang Hsiao Chung
91. Mr Phua Wee Chuan
92. Ms Ravneet Kaur
93. Mrs Regina Ow-Chang Yee Lin
94. Mr Reynard Cheok Yu-Liang
95. Mr Ronald Gwee Tiong Kee
96. Ms Salina Bte Ishak
97. Ms Sandra Looi Ai Lin
98. Ms Sarah Lam Yan Xia
99. Mrs Shahla Iqbal
100. Ms Shahrinah Bte Abdol Salam
101. Mr Shaiffudin Bin Saruwan
102. Ms Sharon Ong Su Min
103. Mr Shawn Ho Hsi Ming
104. Ms Shobha Gopalakrishnan Nair
105. Mr Soh Kee Bun
106. Mr Sunari Bin Kateni
107. Ms Suriakumari d/o Sidambaram
108. Mr Tan Jen Tse
109. Mr Teo Guan Siew
110. Mr Terence Chua Seng Leng
111. Mr Terence Ong
112. Ms Toh Hwee Lian
113. Mr Toh Shin Hao
114. Ms Toh Wee San
115. Mr Toh Yung Cheong
116. Mrs Wendy Chang Mun Lin
117. Ms Wendy Yap Peng Hoon
118. Ms Wong Choon Ning
119. Mr Wong Kok Weng
120. Ms Wong Li Tein
121. Ms Wong Pui Kay

### ACTIVE REVIEW COMMITTEES BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2014 TO 31 AUGUST 2015

As at 1 September 2014, there were 6 cases pending from the previous review year and 86 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 92 cases, the results are as follows:

- 26 cases were dismissed completely;
- 47 cases were fully recommended for further investigation by an Inquiry Committee;
- 9 cases contained both a direction for dismissal for some complaints and a recommendation for further investigation for the rest by an Inquiry Committee; and
- 10 cases are still pending as at 31 August 2015.

### ACTIVE INQUIRY COMMITTEES BETWEEN 1 SEPTEMBER 2014 TO 31 AUGUST 2015

As at 1 September 2014, there were 19 cases pending from the previous review year. To date, 53 Inquiry Committees have been constituted to look into the complaints which have been referred by the Review Committees during this review year. 55 Inquiry Committees have completed their investigations and the results are as follows:

- 29 cases were dismissed;
- 9 cases were recommended for warnings, reprimand or imposition of penalties;
- 11 cases were referred for formal investigations by the Disciplinary Tribunal;
- 1 case was withdrawn by the Complainant; and
- 5 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. 17 cases are pending as at 31 August 2015.

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.

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**serving the community**

Family Justice Division of the Subordinate Courts at Paterson Road (1995)

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# Compensation Fund

Peter Chong Siong Siang, Chairperson //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Peter Chong Siong Siang - Chairperson  
Tan Kay Kheng - Vice-Chairperson  
Lam Kuet Keng Steven - Council Representative  
Aziz Tayabali Samiwalla  
Lek Siang Pheng  
Tan Jee Ming

## Secretariat Representative

Ambika Rajendram

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.

Three pending applications arising from the dishonesty of Zulkifli Bin Amin reported earlier remained pending as the claimants have yet to provide particulars of information requested to support these applications.

One application arising from the dishonesty of Mustaffa Bin Abu Bakar which was reported last year is still pending information to be provided by the applicant.

For the period under review from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015, the Committee received one fresh application for a claim to the Compensation Fund. The application was rejected as the alleged loss did not arise from any dishonesty.

# Professional Indemnity

*Lok Vi Ming, SC, Chairperson* //////////////////////////////////////

## Committee Members

Lok Vi Ming, SC - Chairperson  
 Edric Pan - Vice-Chairperson  
 Kelvin Wong - Council Representative  
 Eusuff Ali s/o N B M Mohamed Kassim  
 Mohamed Ibrahim s/o Mohamed Yakub  
 Ong Lee Woei  
 Pateloo Eruthiyanathan Ashokan  
 Simon Goh Keng Yeow

## Secretariat Representative

Ambika Rajendram

The Law Society's Compulsory Professional Indemnity Scheme (the "Scheme") has been renewed for a period of 12 months commencing 1 April 2015 with a 12.5% decrease in the Standard Primary Premium for the Limit of Indemnity of S\$1,000,000 each claim inclusive of costs and expenses.

This is a significant achievement considering the fact that the Scheme's claims experience has not been favourable. At the point of negotiation, the average loss ratio for the last 5 complete years (2009 to 2013) increased from 64% in 2013 to 74% in 2014. For the Policy Year 2011/2012, the amount paid for claims exceeded S\$8million. There were still pending claims with net reserves of about S\$5.5million. The loss ratio for this particular year alone was more than 180%. Such a claims experience would typically result in a sizeable premium increase. In fact, purely based on the Scheme's loss ratio for the said 5 years, there would have been an increase of about 7% in the Standard Primary Premium for 2015/2016.

The Professional Indemnity ("PI") Committee, however, instructed the Scheme Broker, Lockton Companies (Singapore) Pte Ltd, to negotiate competitive renewal terms.

Despite the odds presented by the Scheme's claims history, with the aggressive negotiations by the Scheme's Broker and goodwill of the PI Committee with the Scheme insurers, a reduction of 12.5% in the Standard Primary Premium, which is substantial, was achieved.

The PI Committee further explored options including Cyber Liability insurance and Self-insurance schemes as well as handling queries and concerns of members on the Scheme coverage.

To familiarize members with the terms of the Scheme policy and guide members on what to do when an allegation of negligence is made, the Chairperson conducted a talk for members at the State Courts on 13 May 2015.

“Despite the odds presented by the Scheme’s claims history, with the aggressive negotiations by the Scheme’s Broker and goodwill of the PI Committee with the Scheme insurers, a reduction of 12.5% in the Standard Primary Premium, which is substantial, was achieved.”



Members of the Professional Indemnity Committee



## acknowledgements

New Syariah Court at Pearl's Hill

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# 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
- A Rohim Noor Lila & Partners
- Abdul Rahman Law Corporation
- AbrahamLow LLC
- Achievers LLC
- Advent Law Corporation
- Advocatus Law LLP
- Aequitas Law LLP
- Affinity Law LLC
- Allen & Gledhill LLP
- Allen & Overy LLP
- Amarick Gill LLC
- Amica Law LLC
- Amolat & Partners
- Ang & Partners
- Angeline Suparto Law Corp
- Apex Law LLP
- APM AsiaPacific Moeller Terminals
- Archilex Law Corporation
- Ari Goh & Partners
- Arul Chew & Partners
- Asia Law Corporation
- Aziz Tayabali & Associates
- B Rengarajoo & Associates
- B.C. Beaver Asia Pte Ltd
- Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow
- Beacon Law Corporation
- Belinda Ang Tang & Partners
- Berwin Leighton Paisner LLP
- Bird & Bird ATMD LLP
- Bizibody Technology Pte Ltd
- Bogaars & Din
- Braddell Brothers LLP
- C Paglar & Co

- Cavenagh Law LLP
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- Chia Wong LLP
- Chia-Thomas Law Chambers LLC
- Chiu Cheong LLC
- City Law LLC
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- Clifford Chance Pte. Ltd.
- Clifford Law LLP
- Clyde & Co Clasis Singapore Pte. Ltd.
- Colin Ng & Partners LLP
- Consilium Law Corporation
- Continental Law LLP
- Cornerstone Law LLP
- CTLC Law Corporation
- David Lim & Partners LLP
- De Souza Lim & Goh LLP
- Deepak Raja & Associates
- Dennis Chua & Co
- DLA Piper Singapore Pte Ltd
- Dorothy Chai Law Practice
- Drew & Napier LLC
- Eden Law Corporation
- Eldan Law LLP
- Ella Cheong LLC
- Engelin Teh Practice LLC
- Ethos Law Corporation
- Eugene Thuraisingam LLP
- Fairchild Semiconductor Pte Ltd
- Flint & Battery LLC
- Foo & Quek LLC
- Fortis Law Corporation
- Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer Sinngapore Pte Ltd
- Gateway Law Corporation
- Gavan Law Practice LLC
- Genesis Law Corporation
- George Hwang LLC
- Global Law Alliance LLC
- Gloria James-Civetta & Co
- Godwin Campos LLC
- Goodwins Law Corporation

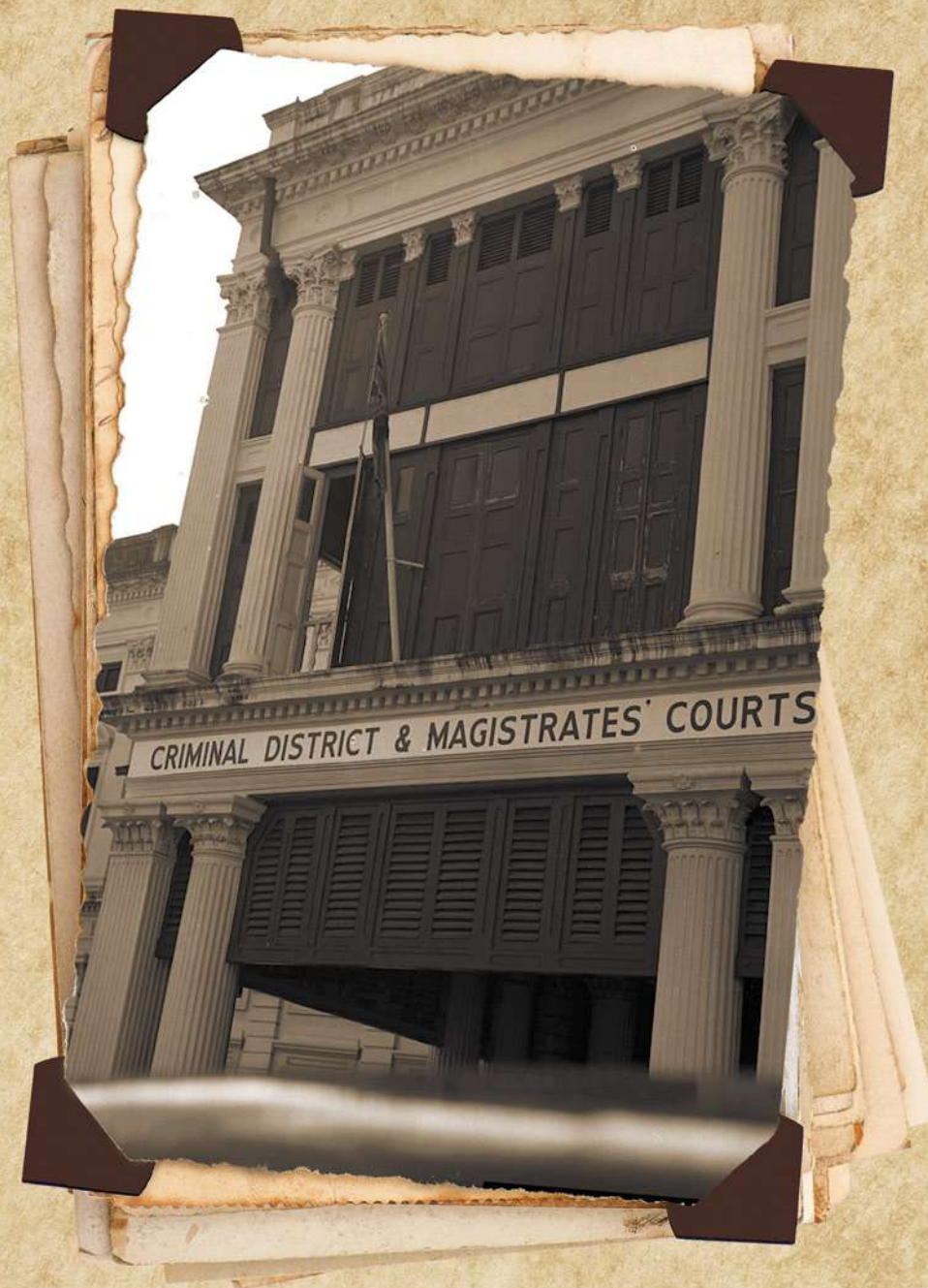
Gurdaib Cheong & Partners  
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Haridass Ho & Partners  
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Ho Wong Law Practice LLC  
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Jenny Lai & Co  
Jones Day  
Joo Toon LLC  
Joseph Tan Jude Benny LLP  
Joyce A Tan & Partners  
Jubilee Law Corporation  
JusEquity Law Corporation  
JusJuris Law LLC  
Justin Phua Tan & Partners  
K L Tan & Associates  
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Kalco Law LLC  
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Kel LLC  
Kelvin Chia Partnership  
KhattarWong LLP  
Kinetic Partners  
KSCGP Juris LLP  
Lalwani Law Chambers  
Lawrence Chua & Partners  
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Lim Soo Peng & Co LLP  
Linklaters Singapore Pte Ltd  
Lisa Sam & Company  
Looi Teck Kheong  
Low Yeap Toh & Goon LLP  
Mahmood Gaznavi & Partners  
Malkin & Maxwell LLP  
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Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore  
Maxime Law Corporation  
Michael Hwang Chambers LLC  
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Rio Tinto Singapore Holdings Pte Ltd  
Riverbed Technology  
Robert Wang & Woo LLP  
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Straits Law Practice LLC  
T L Yap Law Chambers LLC  
Tan Kok Quan Partnership  
Tan Leroy & Chandra

Tan Rajah & Cheah  
Templars Law LLC  
TJ Cheng Law Corporation  
Trident Law Corporation  
TSMP Law Corporation  
UniLegal LLC  
United Legal Alliance LLC  
Via Law Corporation  
Vision Law LLC  
VoskampLawyers  
Watson, Farley & Williams Asia Practice LLP  
Wave House Sentosa (Singapore)  
Winchester Law LLC  
Wong & Leow LLC  
Wong & Yian LLC  
Wong Alliance LLP  
Wong Thomas & Leong  
WongPartnership LLP  
Yeo-Leong & Peh LLC  
Yuen Law LLC  
Yusarn Audrey

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

Supreme Court of Singapore  
State Courts of Singapore  
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



## **audited financial statements**

A tattered weather-worn Union Jack on flagstaff of  
the Singapore Courts in South Bridge Road

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**THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE**  
**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED**  
**31 MARCH 2015**

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Independent Auditor's Report	2
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Statement of Changes in Accumulated Funds and Fair Value Reserve	7
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Notes to the Financial Statements	11

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**BAKER TILLY**  
**TFW**

Baker Tilly TFW LLP  
Chartered Accountants of Singapore


An independent member of Baker Tilly International

## **THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE**

### **STATEMENT BY THE COUNCIL**

In the opinion of the Council, the financial statements of The Law Society of Singapore (the "Society") as set out on pages 4 to 39 are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards so as to present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Society as at 31 March 2015 and the financial performance, changes in accumulated funds and fair value reserve and cash flows of the Society for the financial year then ended.

On behalf of the Council



Mr Thio Shen Yi, Senior Counsel  
President

25 September 2015



Ms Kuah Boon Theng  
Treasurer



## BAKER TILLY TFW

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Chartered Accountants of Singapore  
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Singapore 188778  
T: +65 6336 2828  
F: +65 6339 0438  
www.bakertillytfw.com

### **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 39, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 March 2015, and the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in accumulated funds and fair value reserve and statement of cash flows for the financial year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

#### *The Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements*

The 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 the 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 control 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 the 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 of the Society are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards so as to present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Society as at 31 March 2015 and the financial performance, 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

**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 Law Society of Singapore, Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (the "Division"), during the course of our audit, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that during the financial year:

- (i) the use of the donation moneys was not in accordance with the objectives of the Division as required under regulation 16 of the Charities (Institutions of a Public Character) Regulations; and
- (ii) the Division 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

25 September 2015

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**As at 31 March 2015**

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

**THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE**

**BALANCE SHEET (cont'd)**  
As at 31 March 2015

	Note	General Fund		Other Funds		Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services		Compensation Fund		Monies held in Trust		Total
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>LIABILITIES</b>												
<b>Current liabilities</b>												
Fees received												
in advance		1,196,886	296,894	37,555	-	-	-	129,400	10,100	-	-	1,363,841
Grants received from												306,994
the Ministry of Law	18	-	-	-	-	197,500	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000
Payables	7	449,595	262,488	14,145	15,708	250,083	26,880	150	150	-	-	713,973
Monies held in trust	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,260,791	1,175,088	1,175,088
Income tax payable		16,988	16,988	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,988
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>1,663,469</b>	<b>576,370</b>	<b>51,700</b>	<b>15,708</b>	<b>447,583</b>	<b>226,880</b>	<b>129,550</b>	<b>10,250</b>	<b>1,260,791</b>	<b>1,175,088</b>	<b>3,553,093</b>
<b>Net assets</b>		<b>16,707,586</b>	<b>15,510,954</b>	<b>218,055</b>	<b>222,676</b>	<b>1,313,813</b>	<b>775,946</b>	<b>12,147,403</b>	<b>11,246,908</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,756,484</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>												
<b>Accumulated Funds</b>	8 to 15	<b>16,457,512</b>	<b>15,414,532</b>	<b>218,055</b>	<b>222,676</b>	<b>1,313,813</b>	<b>775,946</b>	<b>11,816,554</b>	<b>11,119,037</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,532,191</b>
<b>Fair value reserve</b>		<b>250,074</b>	<b>96,422</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>330,849</b>	<b>127,871</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>224,293</b>
		<b>16,707,586</b>	<b>15,510,954</b>	<b>218,055</b>	<b>222,676</b>	<b>1,313,813</b>	<b>775,946</b>	<b>12,147,403</b>	<b>11,246,908</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,756,484</b>

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 2015

	Note	General Fund (Note 8)		Other Funds (Notes 11 to 15)		Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (Note 10)		Compensation Fund (Note 9)		Total	
		2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>INCOME</b>											
Subscriptions, Levy and Compensation Fund dues		4,602,271	4,387,684	-	-	-	-	496,300	470,700	5,098,571	4,858,384
Investment income and interest from fixed deposits and current bank accounts		199,951	202,875	818	650	6,603	1,973	237,085	241,110	444,457	446,608
Income from operating activities		1,231,223	957,158	71,592	118,542	3,025,890	2,386,025	28,000	11,500	4,356,705	3,473,225
		6,033,445	5,547,717	72,410	119,192	3,032,493	2,387,998	761,385	723,310	9,899,733	8,778,217
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>											
Expenditure from operating activities		3,629,282	3,314,116	77,031	108,974	2,494,626	2,238,565	63,868	362,100	6,264,807	6,023,755
Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services		1,147,530	1,046,860	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,147,530	1,046,860
Disciplinary Proceedings costs		213,653	(139,497)	-	-	-	-	-	-	213,653	(139,497)
		4,990,465	4,221,479	77,031	108,974	2,494,626	2,238,565	63,868	362,100	7,625,990	6,931,118
<b>Surplus/(deficit) before tax</b>		1,042,980	1,326,238	(4,621)	10,218	537,867	149,433	697,517	361,210	2,273,743	1,847,099
Tax expense	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Surplus for the financial year</b>		1,042,980	1,326,238	(4,621)	10,218	537,867	149,433	697,517	361,210	2,273,743	1,847,099
<b>Other comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial year, net of tax</b>											
Fair value gain/(loss) on available-for-sale financial assets		153,652	(62,970)	-	-	-	-	202,978	(83,571)	356,630	(146,541)
<b>Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial year</b>		1,196,632	1,263,268	(4,621)	10,218	537,867	149,433	900,495	277,639	2,630,373	1,700,558

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 2015

	Note	As at 1 April \$	Income \$	Expenditure \$	Tax expense \$	Net Change \$	As at 31 March \$
<b>2015</b>							
<i>Accumulated Funds</i>							
General Fund	8	15,414,532	6,033,445	4,990,465	-	1,042,980	16,457,512
Compensation Fund	9	11,119,037	761,385	63,868	-	697,517	11,816,554
Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	10	775,946	3,032,493	2,494,626	-	537,867	1,313,813
<i>Other Funds</i>							
Jus Curio Fund	11	145,900	13,165	584	-	12,581	158,481
Library Fund	12	48,389	345	-	-	345	48,734
Pastoral Care Fund	13	(5,070)	-	1,620	-	(1,620)	(6,690)
Sports Meet Fund	14	(44,066)	58,900	74,827	-	(15,927)	(59,993)
Welfare Fund	15	77,523	-	-	-	-	77,523
		222,676	72,410	77,031	-	(4,621)	218,055
		27,532,191	9,899,733	7,625,990	-	2,273,743	29,805,934
<b>Fair value reserve</b>							
		224,293	356,630	-	-	356,630	580,923
		27,756,484	10,256,363	7,625,990	-	2,630,373	30,386,857
<b>2014</b>							
<i>Accumulated Funds</i>							
General Fund	8	14,088,294	5,547,717	4,221,479	-	1,326,238	15,414,532
Compensation Fund	9	10,757,827	723,310	362,100	-	361,210	11,119,037
Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	10	626,513	2,387,998	2,238,565	-	149,433	775,946
<i>Other Funds</i>							
Jus Curio Fund	11	105,512	41,644	1,256	-	40,388	145,900
Library Fund	12	48,127	262	-	-	262	48,389
Pastoral Care Fund	13	(2,190)	-	2,880	-	(2,880)	(5,070)
Sports Meet Fund	14	(16,614)	77,286	104,738	-	(27,452)	(44,066)
Welfare Fund	15	77,623	-	100	-	(100)	77,523
		212,458	119,192	108,974	-	10,218	222,676
		25,685,092	8,778,217	6,931,118	-	1,847,099	27,532,191
<b>Fair value reserve</b>							
		370,834	-	146,541	-	(146,541)	224,293
		26,055,926	8,778,217	7,077,659	-	1,700,558	27,756,484

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 2015**

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Surplus before tax		2,273,743	1,847,099
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	2	477,005	250,634
Interest income		(134,191)	(116,952)
Investment income		(310,266)	(329,656)
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets		41,825	11,875
Property, plant and equipment written off		29,997	—
Operating cash flows before working capital changes		2,378,113	1,663,000
Fixed deposits and bank balances held in trust		(85,703)	4,201,319
Inventories		(3,963)	8,670
Receivables		(1,207,336)	291,622
Fees received in advance		1,056,847	(3,590,143)
Grants received from the Ministry of Law		(2,500)	200,000
Payables and monies held in trust		494,450	(4,811,808)
Cash from/(used in) operations		2,629,908	(2,037,340)
Income tax paid		—	(159,390)
<b>Net cash from/(used in) operating activities</b>		<b>2,629,908</b>	<b>(2,196,730)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Additions of available-for-sale financial assets		(1,744,221)	(2,076,673)
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets		1,325,100	950,000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	2	(1,156,864)	(80,805)
Interest received		134,191	116,952
Investment income received		310,266	329,656
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(1,131,528)</b>	<b>(760,870)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>1,498,380</b>	<b>(2,957,600)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year		13,124,208	16,081,808
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>		<b>14,622,588</b>	<b>13,124,208</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents comprise:</b>			
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances (Note 6)		15,883,379	14,299,296
Less: Monies held in Trust (Note 6)		(1,260,791)	(1,175,088)
		<b>14,622,588</b>	<b>13,124,208</b>

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 2015**

	General Fund	Other Funds	Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	Compensation Fund	Monies held in Trust	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>						
Surplus/(deficit) before tax	1,042,980	(4,621)	537,867	697,517	-	2,273,743
Adjustments for:						
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	382,814	-	94,191	-	-	477,005
Interest income	(60,280)	(818)	(6,603)	(66,490)	-	(134,191)
Investment income	(139,671)	-	-	(170,595)	-	(310,266)
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	17,428	-	-	24,397	-	41,825
Property, plant and equipment written off	29,997	-	-	-	-	29,997
Operating cash flows before working capital changes	1,273,268	(5,439)	625,455	484,829	-	2,378,113
Fixed deposits and bank balances held in trust	-	-	-	-	(85,703)	(85,703)
Inventories	-	(3,963)	-	-	-	(3,963)
Receivables	(1,172,542)	(34,792)	(2)	-	-	(1,207,336)
Fees received in advance	899,992	37,555	-	119,300	-	1,056,847
Grants received from the Ministry of Law	-	-	(2,500)	-	-	(2,500)
Payables and monies held in trust	187,107	(1,563)	223,203	-	85,703	494,450
Interfund - amount due from/(to)	(40,902)	(63,433)	62,667	41,668	-	-
Cash from/(used in) operations	1,146,923	(71,635)	908,823	645,797	-	2,629,908
Income tax paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net cash from/(used in) operating activities</b>	<b>1,146,923</b>	<b>(71,635)</b>	<b>908,823</b>	<b>645,797</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,629,908</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>						
Additions of available-for-sale financial assets	(768,567)	-	-	(975,654)	-	(1,744,221)
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	552,169	-	-	772,931	-	1,325,100
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(885,602)	-	(271,262)	-	-	(1,156,864)
Interest received	60,280	818	6,603	66,490	-	134,191
Investment income received	139,671	-	-	170,595	-	310,266
<b>Net cash (used in)/from investing activities</b>	<b>(902,049)</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>(264,659)</b>	<b>34,362</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,131,528)</b>
<b>Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>244,874</b>	<b>(70,817)</b>	<b>644,164</b>	<b>680,159</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,498,380</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	5,510,755	286,877	1,491,993	5,834,583	-	13,124,208
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>5,755,629</b>	<b>216,060</b>	<b>2,136,157</b>	<b>6,514,742</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>14,622,588</b>

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 2014

	General Fund	Other Funds	Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	Compensation Fund	Monies held in Trust	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>						
Surplus before tax	1,326,238	10,218	149,433	361,210	-	1,847,099
Adjustments for:						
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	210,491	-	40,143	-	-	250,634
Interest income	(56,732)	(650)	(1,973)	(57,597)	-	(116,952)
Investment income	(146,143)	-	-	(183,513)	-	(329,656)
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	5,313	-	-	6,562	-	11,875
Operating cash flows before working capital changes	1,339,167	9,568	187,603	126,662	-	1,663,000
Fixed deposits and bank balances held in trust	-	-	-	-	4,201,319	4,201,319
Inventories	-	8,670	-	-	-	8,670
Receivables	(219,018)	1,036	509,604	-	-	291,622
Fees received in advance	(3,217,043)	-	(10,000)	(363,100)	-	(3,590,143)
Grants received from the Ministry of Law	-	-	200,000	-	-	200,000
Payables and monies held in trust	(622,916)	(1,601)	14,028	-	(4,201,319)	(4,811,808)
Interfund - amount due from/(to)	(382,353)	34,406	233,070	114,877	-	-
Cash (used in)/from operations	(3,102,163)	52,079	1,134,305	(121,561)	-	(2,037,340)
Income tax paid	(159,390)	-	-	-	-	(159,390)
<b>Net cash (used in)/from operating activities</b>	<b>(3,261,553)</b>	<b>52,079</b>	<b>1,134,305</b>	<b>(121,561)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,196,730)</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>						
Additions of available-for-sale financial assets	(929,336)	-	-	(1,147,337)	-	(2,076,673)
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	433,350	-	-	516,650	-	950,000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(25,132)	-	(55,673)	-	-	(80,805)
Interest received	56,732	650	1,973	57,597	-	116,952
Investment income received	146,143	-	-	183,513	-	329,656
<b>Net cash (used in)/from investing activities</b>	<b>(318,243)</b>	<b>650</b>	<b>(53,700)</b>	<b>(389,577)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(760,870)</b>
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(3,579,796)</b>	<b>52,729</b>	<b>1,080,605</b>	<b>(511,138)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(2,957,600)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of financial year	9,090,551	234,148	411,388	6,345,721	-	16,081,808
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year</b>	<b>5,510,755</b>	<b>286,877</b>	<b>1,491,993</b>	<b>5,834,583</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,124,208</b>

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 2015**

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

#### **1 Summary of 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 income and expenditure 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 other comprehensive income and accumulated in fair value reserve within funds. 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 2015 was \$10,214,297 (2014: \$9,480,371).
- (ii) The Society depreciates its property, plant and equipment based on a straight line basis over their expected useful lives. The carrying amount of the Society's property, plant and equipment at 31 March 2015 was \$6,246,933 (2014: \$5,597,071). 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.

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, other current receivables and payables 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 and revised FRS and INT FRS did not have any material effect on the financial performance or position of the Society.

## **1 Summary of 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 2015 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, except as disclosed below:

#### *FRS 109 Financial Instruments*

FRS 109 includes guidance on the classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities and de-recognition of financial instruments. FRS 109, when effective will replace FRS 39 *Financial Instruments: Recognition and Measurement*. This standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The Society will review the requirements of FRS 109 and re-assess the classification and measurement of its financial assets and financial liabilities in accordance with this standard.

### **(b) Income recognition**

Income comprises the fair value of the consideration received or receivable for the rendering of services, net of goods and services tax, rebates and discounts. Income is recognised to the extent that it is probable that the economic benefits associated with the transaction will flow to the Society, and the amount of income and related expenditure can be reliably measured.

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 basis using the effective interest method.

Dividend income is recognised when the right to receive payment is established.

Income from self financing project is recognised in the period the event occurred.

### **(c) Government grants**

Government grants are recognised at their fair value where there is a reasonable assurance that the grant will be received and all attaching conditions will be complied with. Where the grant relates to an asset, the fair value is recognised in the deferred capital grant on the balance sheet and amortised to profit or loss over the expected useful life of the relevant asset by equal annual instalments.

When the grant related to expenditure item, it is recognised in profit or loss over the period necessary to match them on a systematic basis to the expenditure that it is intended to compensate.

### **(d) Employee's benefits**

#### *Defined contribution plans*

The Society makes contributions 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 profit or loss in the period in which the related service is performed.

#### *Employee leave entitlement*

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

## **1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **(e) Operating leases**

Leases where a significant portion of the risks and rewards incidental to ownership are retained by the lessor are classified as operating leases. Payments made under operating leases (net of any incentives received from the lessor) are recognised in profit or loss on a straight-line basis over the period of the lease.

When an operating lease is terminated before the lease period expires, any payment required to be made to the lessor by way of penalty is recognised as an expenditure in the period in which termination takes place.

### **(f) Taxation**

Income tax on profit or 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 fund, in which case it is recognised in fund.

Current tax is the expected tax payable on the taxable income for the year, using tax 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 income tax is charged or credited to fund if the tax relates to items that are credited or charged, in the same or a different period, directly to fund.

### **(g) Property, plant and equipment**

Property, plant and equipment are initially recorded at cost. Subsequent to initial recognition, property, plant and equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

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.

## **1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **(g) Property, plant and equipment (cont'd)**

Depreciation is calculated on a straight line basis to write off the cost of property, plant and equipment over their expected useful lives. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

	<b>Years</b>
Leasehold building	50
Renovation	5 to 10
Computer equipment	3 to 5
Office equipment	5
Furniture and fittings	10
Air-conditioners	3 to 5
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.

### **(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.

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. 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) 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. Net realisable value is the estimated selling price in the ordinary course of business less selling expenses.

### **(j) Financial assets**

The Society classifies its financial assets in the following categories: loans and receivables and available-for-sale. The classification depends on the nature of the assets and the purpose for which the assets were acquired. Management determines the classification of its financial assets at initial recognition.

#### *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 later than 12 months after the balance sheet date which are classified as non-current assets. Loans and receivables are presented as "Interfund-amount due from", "Receivables" and "Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances" in the balance sheet.

## **1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **(j) Financial assets (cont'd)**

#### *Loans and receivables (cont'd)*

Loans and receivables are measured at initial recognition at fair value plus transaction costs, and are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less impairment.

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 carrying 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 receivable is uncollectible, it is written off against the allowance account for the receivables. Subsequent recoveries of amounts previously written off are credited in profit or loss.

#### *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.

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.

Available-for-sale financial assets are initially recognised at fair value plus transaction costs and 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 other comprehensive income and accumulated in fair value reserve within funds. 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.

The fair values of quoted financial assets are based on market price at the balance sheet date. 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.

## **1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)**

### **(j) Financial assets (cont'd)**

#### *Available-for-sale financial assets (cont'd)*

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 is 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.

### **(k) Financial liabilities**

Financial liabilities include interfund - amount due to, payables (excluding donations received in advance) and monies held in trust. Financial liabilities are recognised on the balance sheet when, and only when, the Society becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the financial instruments. Financial liabilities are initially recognised at fair value plus directly attributable transaction 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.

### **(l) Provisions**

Provisions are recognised when the Society has a present 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 Society expects a provision to be reimbursed, the reimbursement is recognised as a separate asset but only when the reimbursement is virtually certain.

### **(m) Funds**

Unless specifically indicated, fund balances are not represented by any specific assets or liabilities but are represented by all assets of the Society.

### **(n) Cash and cash equivalents**

For the purpose of presentation in the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents 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 and excludes Monies held in trust.

**2 Property, plant and equipment**

	Leasehold building \$	Renovation \$	Computer equipment \$	Office equipment \$	Furniture and fittings \$	Air- conditioners \$	Library books \$	Total \$
<b>2015</b>								
<b>Cost</b>								
At 1 April 2014	7,776,606	1,976,168	768,350	171,534	161,339	133,840	132,866	11,120,703
Additions	-	1,030,353	69,855	11,156	-	45,500	-	1,156,864
Written off	-	-	-	-	(161,022)	-	-	(161,022)
At 31 March 2015	7,776,606	3,006,521	838,205	182,690	317	179,340	132,866	12,116,545
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>								
At 1 April 2014	2,436,670	1,946,986	629,610	125,417	119,350	132,733	132,866	5,523,632
Depreciation charge	155,532	214,093	67,939	17,795	11,992	9,654	-	477,005
Written off	-	-	-	-	(131,025)	-	-	(131,025)
At 31 March 2015	2,592,202	2,161,079	697,549	143,212	317	142,387	132,866	5,869,612
<b>Net carrying value</b>								
At 31 March 2015	5,184,404	845,442	140,656	39,478	-	36,953	-	6,246,933
<b>Comprises:</b>								
<i>General Fund</i>	5,184,404	684,070	68,464	22,637	-	553	-	5,960,128
<i>Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services</i>	-	161,372	72,192	16,841	-	36,400	-	286,805
	5,184,404	845,442	140,656	39,478	-	36,953	-	6,246,933
<b>2014</b>								
<b>Cost</b>								
At 1 April 2013	7,776,606	1,941,253	731,222	164,432	161,339	132,180	132,866	11,039,898
Additions	-	34,915	37,128	7,102	-	1,660	-	80,805
At 31 March 2014	7,776,606	1,976,168	768,350	171,534	161,339	133,840	132,866	11,120,703
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>								
At 1 April 2013	2,281,137	1,937,300	573,751	109,114	106,650	132,180	132,866	5,272,998
Depreciation charge	155,533	9,686	55,859	16,303	12,700	553	-	250,634
At 31 March 2014	2,436,670	1,946,986	629,610	125,417	119,350	132,733	132,866	5,523,632
<b>Net carrying value</b>								
At 31 March 2014	5,339,936	29,182	138,740	46,117	41,989	1,107	-	5,597,071
<b>Comprises:</b>								
<i>General Fund</i>	5,339,936	831	75,383	28,091	41,989	1,107	-	5,487,337
<i>Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services</i>	-	28,351	63,357	18,026	-	-	-	109,734
	5,339,936	29,182	138,740	46,117	41,989	1,107	-	5,597,071

**2015**  
\$

**2014**  
\$

Depreciation is charged as follows:

General Fund (Note 8e)	382,814	210,491
Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (Note 10)		
- General Pro Bono Services Office ("General PBSO")	41,774	24,398
- Criminal Legal Aid Scheme ("CLAS")	52,417	15,745
	477,005	250,634

### 3 Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets comprise:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Interest bearing securities:		
Balance at the beginning of financial year	7,383,530	6,169,893
Additions	1,753,125	2,011,425
Disposals	(1,287,025)	(761,868)
Fair value gain/(loss)	109,300	(35,920)
Balance at the end of financial year	<u>7,958,930</u>	<u>7,383,530</u>
Accrued interest	<u>72,807</u>	<u>81,711</u>
Equity instruments (quoted):		
Balance at the beginning of financial year	2,015,130	2,278,501
Additions	—	47,250
Disposals	(79,900)	(200,000)
Fair value gain/(loss)	247,330	(110,621)
Balance at the end of financial year	<u>2,182,560</u>	<u>2,015,130</u>
	<u>10,214,297</u>	<u>9,480,371</u>

Available-for-sale financial assets are analysed as follows:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<u>Non-current</u>		
General Fund	4,048,268	3,618,552
Compensation Fund	<u>5,084,271</u>	<u>4,493,083</u>
	<u>9,132,539</u>	<u>8,111,635</u>
<u>Current</u>		
General Fund	495,612	572,706
Compensation Fund	<u>586,146</u>	<u>796,030</u>
	<u>1,081,758</u>	<u>1,368,736</u>
	<u>10,214,297</u>	<u>9,480,371</u>

As at 31 March 2015, interest bearing securities earn interest at fixed rates from 3.01% to 6.00% (2014: 3.01% to 6.00%) per annum and the maturity dates of certain securities are due within 1 to 8 years (2014: 1 to 8 years) from the balance sheet date. The balances include perpetual bonds.

### 4 Inventories

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Publications, gifts and souvenirs (Note 11)	<u>28,624</u>	<u>24,661</u>

**5 Receivables**

	General Fund \$	Other Funds \$	Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services \$	2015 \$	2014 \$
Subscription fees received by Supreme Court on behalf of the Society	1,315,080	–	–	<b>1,315,080</b>	126,964
Sundry receivables	127,176	12,587	7,017	<b>146,780</b>	84,195
Sundry deposits	70,170	172	7,750	<b>78,092</b>	114,764
Prepayments	2,443	23,347	975	<b>26,765</b>	33,458
	<b>1,514,869</b>	<b>36,106</b>	<b>15,742</b>	<b>1,566,717</b>	<b>359,381</b>

**6 Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances**

	2015			2014		
	Fixed deposits \$	Bank and cash balances \$	Total \$	Fixed deposits \$	Bank and cash balances \$	Total \$
General Fund	4,907,160	848,469	5,755,629	4,957,617	553,138	5,510,755
Compensation Fund	5,926,255	588,487	6,514,742	5,618,127	216,456	5,834,583
	<b>10,833,415</b>	<b>1,436,956</b>	<b>12,270,371</b>	<b>10,575,744</b>	<b>769,594</b>	<b>11,345,338</b>
<u>Other Funds:</u>						
Jus Curio Fund	41,216	39,543	80,759	40,743	111,689	152,432
Library Fund	38,562	10,000	48,562	38,217	10,000	48,217
Pastoral Care Fund	–	(6,690)	(6,690)	–	(5,070)	(5,070)
Sports Meet Fund	–	15,906	15,906	–	13,775	13,775
Welfare fund	–	77,523	77,523	–	77,523	77,523
	<b>79,778</b>	<b>136,282</b>	<b>216,060</b>	<b>78,960</b>	<b>207,917</b>	<b>286,877</b>
<u>Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services:</u>						
General PBSO	1,464,001	128,466	1,592,467	908,394	118,637	1,027,031
CLAS	300,294	117,371	417,665	200,345	137,316	337,661
Law Awareness Fund	–	83,967	83,967	–	85,350	85,350
Bar Memorial Scholarship Fund	15,348	26,710	42,058	15,241	26,710	41,951
	<b>1,779,643</b>	<b>356,514</b>	<b>2,136,157</b>	<b>1,123,980</b>	<b>368,013</b>	<b>1,491,993</b>
	<b>12,692,836</b>	<b>1,929,752</b>	<b>14,622,588</b>	<b>11,778,684</b>	<b>1,345,524</b>	<b>13,124,208</b>
Monies held in Trust (Note 16)	998,573	262,218	1,260,791	829,476	345,612	1,175,088
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,691,409</b>	<b>2,191,970</b>	<b>15,883,379</b>	<b>12,608,160</b>	<b>1,691,136</b>	<b>14,299,296</b>

The fixed deposits' interest rates as at 31 March 2015 are fixed and ranged between 0.25% to 2.00% (2014: 0.25% to 1.12%) per annum. The fixed deposits mature within 1 to 11 months (2014: 1 to 11 months) after the balance sheet date.

**7 Payables**

	General Fund \$	Other Funds \$	Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services \$	Compensation Fund \$	2015 \$	2014 \$
Sundry payables	295,587	14,145	58,178	150	368,060	158,394
Donations received in advance	—	—	191,434	—	191,434	—
Accrued expenses	154,008	—	471	—	154,479	146,832
	<u>449,595</u>	<u>14,145</u>	<u>250,083</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>713,973</u>	<u>305,226</u>

**8 General Fund**

	Note	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>			
Subscriptions from members	8a	4,602,271	4,387,684
Interest on fixed deposits	8b	60,280	56,732
Investment income		139,671	146,143
Surplus from self financing projects	8c	975,700	676,172
Sundry income	8d	255,523	280,986
		<u>6,033,445</u>	<u>5,547,717</u>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>			
Administrative expenses	8e	860,979	596,258
Personnel expenses	8f	2,623,320	2,636,348
Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	8g	1,147,530	1,046,860
Meetings, events and other Council expenses	8h	145,731	88,699
Council budgets for special projects/expenditure	8i	(748)	(7,189)
Disciplinary Proceedings costs	8j	213,653	(139,497)
		<u>4,990,465</u>	<u>4,221,479</u>
Surplus before tax		1,042,980	1,326,238
Tax expense	17	—	—
Surplus for the financial year		<u>1,042,980</u>	<u>1,326,238</u>
Balance brought forward		15,414,532	14,088,294
Balance carried forward		<u>16,457,512</u>	<u>15,414,532</u>

# 8 General Fund (cont'd)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>[Note 8a]</b>		
<b>Analysis of subscriptions from members</b>		
Subscriptions from Non Practitioners	53,071	50,133
Subscriptions from Practitioners	4,549,200	4,337,551
	<u>4,602,271</u>	<u>4,387,684</u>
<b>[Note 8b]</b>		
<b>Analysis of interest on fixed deposits</b>		
Interest received on fixed deposits	<u>60,280</u>	<u>56,732</u>
<b>[Note 8c]</b>		
<b>Analysis of surplus/(deficit) from self financing projects</b>		
<u>Annual Dinner</u>		
Income	62,841	70,663
Expenditure	(67,570)	(76,938)
Deficit	<u>(4,729)</u>	<u>(6,275)</u>
<u>Continuing Professional Development Programmes</u>		
Income	477,579	477,309
Expenditure	(82,987)	(85,619)
Surplus	<u>394,592</u>	<u>391,690</u>
<u>Advocacy</u>		
Income	605,150	456,450
Expenditure*	(368,431)	(254,198)
	<u>236,719</u>	<u>202,252</u>
Add: Fee waiver of trainers	72,945	57,660
Surplus	<u>309,664</u>	<u>259,912</u>
* Relates to direct expenditure only and does not include secretariat staff or admin overheads.		
<u>Litigation Conference 2014</u>		
Income	178,922	—
Expenditure	(100,468)	—
Surplus	<u>78,454</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>Regional Insolvency Conference 2014</u>		
Income	90,997	—
Expenditure	(41,164)	—
Surplus	<u>49,833</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Asia Pro Bono Conference 2014</u>		
Income	128,085	—
Expenditure	(97,767)	—
Surplus	<u>30,318</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>Administrative &amp; Constitutional Law Conference 2015</u>		
Income	16,330	—
Expenditure	(10,380)	—
Surplus	<u>5,950</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>Litigation Conference 2015</u>		
Income	194,397	—
Expenditure	(85,429)	—
Surplus	<u>108,968</u>	<u>—</u>
<u>National Insolvency Conference</u>		
Income	—	48,678
Expenditure	—	(11,289)
Surplus	<u>—</u>	<u>37,389</u>

# 8 General Fund (cont'd)

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>[Note 8c]</b>		
<b>Analysis of surplus/(deficit) from self financing projects (cont'd)</b>		
<u>26<sup>th</sup> Law Asia Conference</u>		
Income	2,650	275,045
Expenditure	—	(281,589)
Surplus	<u>2,650</u>	<u>(6,544)</u>
Total surplus	<u>975,700</u>	<u>676,172</u>

<b>[Note 8d]</b>		
<b>Analysis of sundry income</b>		
Advertising - online directory	87,329	86,869
Classifieds advertising	71,192	73,280
Other income	97,002	120,837
	<u>255,523</u>	<u>280,986</u>

<b>[Note 8e]</b>		
<b>Analysis of administrative expenses</b>		
Advertising	14,298	3,721
Auditor's remuneration	25,200	28,200
Bank charges	2,775	2,972
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	382,814	210,491
Property, plant and equipment written off	29,997	—
Miscellaneous	7,700	3,978
Moving and storage	13,100	—
Newspapers, periodicals and binding services	1,285	1,337
Insurance	9,048	4,828
Office rental at One Raffles Place	74,933	—
Pantry supplies	3,047	4,012
Photocopier metered charges and paper costs	9,744	7,925
Photocopier rental fees	65,804	67,992
Postage and courier charges	14,715	14,862
Printing and stationery	9,831	12,367
Professional fees	5,100	3,320
Repairs and maintenance		
- High Court bar room	5,422	7,118
- Premises at 39 South Bridge Road	89,195	97,699
- Secretariat equipment and website	31,851	34,531
- State (formerly Subordinate) Courts bar room	22,051	22,734
Retrieval charges for archived documents	1,197	2,050
Staff resources	6,078	18,527
Storage charges	21,179	32,130
Telephone, facsimile and email broadcast charges	14,615	15,464
	<u>860,979</u>	<u>596,258</u>

**8 General Fund (cont'd)**

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>[Note 8f]</b>		
<b>Analysis of personnel expenses *</b>		
Central Provident Fund and Skills Development Levy	326,865	315,950
Temporary staff and employment agency fees	41,634	48,029
Salaries (including temporary staff), bonuses and related expenses	2,185,806	2,192,511
Staff allowances	2,766	2,760
Staff fringe benefits	15,912	25,054
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	39,889	36,307
Staff training fees	10,448	15,737
	<u>2,623,320</u>	<u>2,636,348</u>
* Personnel expenses	3,197,025	3,165,576
Less: allocation of common costs		
- General PBSO	(210,841)	(284,205)
- CLAS	(298,996)	(183,422)
- Compensation Fund	(63,868)	(61,601)
	<u>2,623,320</u>	<u>2,636,348</u>
<b>[Note 8g]</b>		
<b>Analysis of Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services</b>		
Book prizes	2,600	3,100
Contributions to the Singapore Institute of Legal Education	494,930	473,760
Contributions to the Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (Note 10)	650,000	570,000
	<u>1,147,530</u>	<u>1,046,860</u>
<b>[Note 8h]</b>		
<b>Analysis of meetings, events and other Council expenses</b>		
Annual General Meeting	1,547	1,725
Membership fees for international bar associations	5,483	5,009
Committee meetings	13,999	9,380
Council and committee work/activities	81,471	57,685
Legal mission/tours	7,707	-
Foreign travel/conferences	35,524	14,900
	<u>145,731</u>	<u>88,699</u>
<b>[Note 8i]</b>		
<b>Analysis of Council budgets for special projects/expenditure</b>		
Biennial Lecture	-	(7,095)
Law Society Arbitration Scheme	(748)	(94)
	<u>(748)</u>	<u>(7,189)</u>
<b>[Note 8j]</b>		
<b>Analysis of Disciplinary Proceedings costs</b>		
Expenses	218,017	86,546
Add: expenses relating to inquiry panel	5,920	4,241
Less: costs recovered	(10,284)	(10,407)
Less: overprovision in prior financial year	-	(219,877)
	<u>213,653</u>	<u>(139,497)</u>

## 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.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Contributions received	496,300	470,700
Interest on fixed deposits	66,490	57,597
Investment income	170,595	183,513
Penalty under Section 50(2) of the Legal Profession Act	28,000	11,500
	<b>761,385</b>	<b>723,310</b>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Grants under Section 75(9) of the Legal Profession Act	—	300,107
Expenses relating to establishment, maintenance, administration and application of funds	63,868	61,601
Bank charges	—	392
	<b>63,868</b>	<b>362,100</b>
Surplus for the financial year	<b>697,517</b>	<b>361,210</b>
Balance brought forward	<b>11,119,037</b>	<b>10,757,827</b>
Balance carried forward	<b>11,816,554</b>	<b>11,119,037</b>

## 10 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services

With the support of the Ministry of Law and the Singapore Academy of Law, the Society established the Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (the "Division"). The Division coordinates and administers all pro bono initiatives of the Society, including the General Pro Bono Services Office ("General PBSO"), Criminal Legal Aid Scheme ("CLAS"), Law Awareness Fund and Bar Memorial Scholarship Fund ("BMSF"). The purpose of the Division is to implement the Society's vision and initiatives as to the provision of pro bono legal services in Singapore.

The Division is registered under the Singapore Charities Act (Charities Registration Number: 2064) and has been conferred the status of an approved Institution of a Public Character. It is exempted from income tax and its donors are granted tax deductions for the donations made to the Division. The amount of tax-deductible receipts for donations collected for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 amounted to \$2,080,531 (2014: \$1,210,614).

**10 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (cont'd)**

	General PBSO \$	CLAS \$	Law Awareness Fund \$	BMSF \$	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>						
Contribution from The Law Society of Singapore:						
- Just Walk	400,000	—	—	—	<b>400,000</b>	—
- Annual contribution	250,000	—	—	—	<b>250,000</b>	570,000
Contribution from the Ministry of Law:						
- Operating costs	400,000	325,000	—	—	<b>725,000</b>	908,394
Contribution from NCSS:						
- Appropriate Adult Scheme	87,404	—	—	—	<b>87,404</b>	—
- Care and Share grant	85,965	—	—	—	<b>85,965</b>	—
Contribution from Singapore Academy of Law	—	—	—	—	—	100,000
Contributions/donations received from others	122,067	190,922	3,075	—	<b>316,064</b>	422,758
CLAS Fellowship	—	53,566	—	—	<b>53,566</b>	—
Gross proceeds from Just Walk	999,440	70,000	—	—	<b>1,069,440</b>	—
Gross proceeds from Charity Golf Tournament	—	—	—	—	—	383,640
PBSO Computerisation Project	10,000	—	—	—	<b>10,000</b>	—
Interest on fixed deposits	5,607	889	—	107	<b>6,603</b>	1,973
Other income	—	16,451	12,000	—	<b>28,451</b>	1,233
	<b>2,360,483</b>	<b>656,828</b>	<b>15,075</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>3,032,493</b>	<b>2,387,998</b>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>						
Ad Hoc Pro Bono Scheme	4,110	—	—	—	<b>4,110</b>	6,399
Appropriate Adult Scheme	5,094	—	—	—	<b>5,094</b>	499
Auditor's remuneration	2,000	—	—	—	<b>2,000</b>	2,000
Bank charges	4,544	170	1	—	<b>4,715</b>	347
Central Provident Fund and Skills Development Levy	59,047	78,058	—	—	<b>137,105</b>	133,249
Charity Golf Tournament	—	—	—	—	—	53,404
Community Legal Clinics	65	—	—	—	<b>65</b>	231
Corporate and administrative support service	210,841	298,996	—	—	<b>509,837</b>	467,627
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	41,774	52,417	—	—	<b>94,191</b>	40,143
Disbursement charged by volunteer lawyers	—	58,047	—	—	<b>58,047</b>	53,937
Enhanced CLAS (Honorariums)	—	47,050	—	—	<b>47,050</b>	—
Law Awareness projects	—	—	23,547	—	<b>3,547</b>	98,676
Library materials	85	—	—	—	<b>85</b>	—
Meeting expenses	626	231	313	—	<b>1,170</b>	602
Miscellaneous	715	1,008	51	—	<b>1,774</b>	3,679
Office rental	137,648	—	—	—	<b>137,648</b>	28,862
Other activities	2,824	1,879	—	—	<b>4,703</b>	21,953
Pantry supplies	1,325	1,793	—	—	<b>3,118</b>	2,901
PBSO Computerisation Project	10,000	—	—	—	<b>10,000</b>	—
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper costs	10,494	13,720	—	—	<b>24,214</b>	13,518

**10 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (cont'd)**

	General PBSO \$	CLAS \$	Law Awareness Fund \$	BMSF \$	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE (cont'd)</b>						
Printing and stationery and postages	2,930	3,860	—	—	6,790	18,008
Repair and maintenance	17,119	14,577	—	—	31,696	18,695
Salaries and bonuses	461,275	719,548	22,000	—	1,202,823	1,236,041
Staff allowance and transport	4,438	4,291	124	—	8,853	12,540
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	8,036	6,086	—	—	14,122	11,848
Staff training	7,663	1,453	—	—	9,116	1,610
Staff welfare	2,046	1,534	—	—	3,580	1,644
Telephone and facsimile charges	12,074	2,587	—	—	14,661	10,152
Just Walk expenses	134,512	—	—	—	134,512	—
	<u>1,141,285</u>	<u>1,307,305</u>	<u>46,036</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2,494,626</u>	<u>2,238,565</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year	1,219,198	(650,477)	(30,961)	107	537,867	149,433
Balance brought forward	1,065,959	(383,770)	51,806	41,951	775,946	626,513
Balance carried forward	<u>2,285,157</u>	<u>(1,034,247)</u>	<u>20,845</u>	<u>42,058</u>	<u>1,313,813</u>	<u>775,946</u>

***Employees' Remuneration Bands***

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

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b><i>Number of employee in bands:</i></b>		
\$100,000 to \$200,000	1	2
Above \$200,000	1	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

***Just Walk Project*****Income**

Contribution from The Law Society of Singapore  
Other donations received

400,000	—
<u>1,069,440</u>	—
<u>1,469,440</u>	—

**Less expenditure**

Event organizer  
Souvenir & prizes  
Food & beverage  
Printing & stationery  
Transport, delivery & others

90,160	—
29,577	—
8,072	—
5,743	—
960	—
<u>134,512</u>	—
<u>1,334,928</u>	—

**Surplus*****Appropriate Adult Scheme*****Income**

Contribution from NCSS

87,404	—
--------	---

**Less expenditure**

Staff costs  
Food & beverage  
Activation fees & transport  
Communication

31,439	—
3,352	—
1,043	—
699	—
<u>36,533</u>	—
<u>50,871</u>	—

**Surplus**

**10 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (cont'd)*****PBSO Computerisation Project***

The following Statement of Income and Expenditure on the PBSO Computerisation Project are prepared based on proper accounts and records; the expenditures are incurred for the project and in accordance with the terms and conditions issued by the Board; and the expenditures are properly authorised and supported by appropriate source documents.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>Income</b>		
Contribution from Singapore Totalisator Board and Ministry of Law	10,000	—
<b>Less expenditure</b>		
Consultancy fees	10,000	—
Software	5,961	—
	<u>15,961</u>	<u>—</u>
<b>Deficit</b>	<u>(5,961)</u>	<u>—</u>
<b>Capital expenditure during the year</b>	<u>45,507</u>	<u>—</u>

**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2015**

	Note	General PBSO \$	CLAS \$	Law Awareness Fund \$	BMSF \$	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>ASSETS</b>							
<b>Non-current asset</b>							
Property, plant and equipment	2	77,137	209,668	—	—	286,805	109,734
<b>Current assets</b>							
Receivables	5	8,801	6,941	—	—	15,742	15,740
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	6	1,592,467	417,665	83,967	42,058	2,136,157	1,491,993
		<u>1,601,268</u>	<u>424,606</u>	<u>83,967</u>	<u>42,058</u>	<u>2,151,899</u>	<u>1,507,733</u>
Amount due from/(to) The Law Society of Singapore		687,483	(1,380,127)	15,336	—	(677,308)	(614,641)
Interfund - amount due from/(to)		124,881	(46,441)	(78,440)	—	—	—
		<u>812,364</u>	<u>(1,426,568)</u>	<u>(63,104)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(677,308)</u>	<u>(614,641)</u>
<b>Total assets/(liabilities)</b>		<u>2,490,769</u>	<u>(792,294)</u>	<u>20,863</u>	<u>42,058</u>	<u>1,761,396</u>	<u>1,002,826</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>							
<b>Current liabilities</b>							
Grants received from the Ministry of Law		197,500	—	—	—	197,500	200,000
Payables	7	8,112	241,953	18	—	250,083	26,880
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<u>205,612</u>	<u>241,953</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>447,583</u>	<u>226,880</u>
<b>Net assets/(liabilities)</b>		<u>2,285,157</u>	<u>(1,034,247)</u>	<u>20,845</u>	<u>42,058</u>	<u>1,313,813</u>	<u>775,946</u>
<b>Represented by:</b>							
Accumulated Funds		<u>2,285,157</u>	<u>(1,034,247)</u>	<u>20,845</u>	<u>42,058</u>	<u>1,313,813</u>	<u>775,946</u>

It is the objective of the Division to achieve a reserve that would be able to sustain operations for a three years 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 and Support Services (cont'd)*****General Pro Bono Services Office***

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

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Contribution from The Law Society of Singapore (Note 8g):		
- Just Walk	400,000	—
- Annual contribution	250,000	570,000
Contribution from the Ministry of Law:		
- Operating costs	400,000	908,394
Contribution from NCSS:		
- Appropriate Adult Scheme	87,404	—
- Care and Share grant	85,965	—
Contribution from Singapore Academy of Law	—	100,000
Contributions/donations received from others	122,067	156,608
PBSO Computerisation Project	10,000	—
Gross proceeds for Just Walk	999,440	—
Interest on fixed deposits	5,607	919
	<b>2,360,483</b>	<b>1,735,921</b>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Ad Hoc Pro Bono Scheme	4,110	6,399
Appropriate Adult Scheme	5,094	499
Auditor's remuneration	2,000	2,000
Bank charges	4,544	264
Central Provident Fund and Skill Development Levy	59,047	77,930
Community Legal Clinics	65	231
Corporate and administrative support service	210,841	284,205
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	41,774	24,398
Library materials	85	—
Meeting expenses	626	244
Miscellaneous	715	1,851
Office rental	137,648	28,862
Other activities	2,824	21,805
Pantry supplies	1,325	2,398
PBSO Computerisation Project	10,000	—
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper costs	10,494	8,905
Printing and stationery and postages	2,930	16,421
Repair and maintenance	17,119	13,305
Salaries and bonuses	461,275	734,101
Staff allowance and transport	4,438	5,619
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	8,036	6,947
Staff training	7,663	1,248
Staff welfare	2,046	1,018
Telephone and facsimile charges	12,074	7,942
Just Walk expenses	134,512	—
	<b>1,141,285</b>	<b>1,246,592</b>
Surplus for the financial year	<b>1,219,198</b>	<b>489,329</b>
Balance brought forward	<b>1,065,959</b>	<b>576,630</b>
Balance carried forward	<b>2,285,157</b>	<b>1,065,959</b>

# 10 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (cont'd)

## Criminal Legal Aid Scheme

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

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Contributions received from:		
- Ministry of Law	325,000	—
- Others	190,922	113,150
CLAS Fellowship	53,566	—
Criminal Law Training Programme	10,972	—
Enhanced CLAS collection	5,479	—
Interest on fixed deposits	889	951
Gross proceeds from Charity Golf Tournament*	—	383,640
Gross proceeds from Just Walk	70,000	—
	<b>656,828</b>	<b>497,741</b>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Bank charges	170	29
Central Provident Fund and Skills Development Levy	78,058	55,319
Charity Golf Tournament*	—	53,404
Corporate and administrative support service	298,996	183,422
Criminal Law Training Programme	1,879	—
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	52,417	15,745
Disbursement charged by volunteer lawyers	58,047	53,937
Enhanced CLAS (Honorariums)	47,050	—
Miscellaneous	1,008	1,808
Other activities	231	148
Pantry supplies	1,793	503
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper costs	13,720	4,613
Printing and stationery and postages	3,860	1,587
Repair and maintenance	14,577	5,390
Salaries and bonuses	719,548	468,755
Staff allowance and transport	4,291	5,930
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	6,086	4,901
Staff training	1,453	362
Staff welfare	1,534	626
Telephone and facsimile charges	2,587	2,210
	<b>1,307,305</b>	<b>858,689</b>
Deficit for the financial year	<b>(650,477)</b>	<b>(360,948)</b>
Balance brought forward	<b>(383,770)</b>	<b>(22,822)</b>
Balance carried forward	<b>(1,034,247)</b>	<b>(383,770)</b>

# **10 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (cont'd)**

## ***Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (cont'd)***

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>Net proceeds from Charity Golf Tournament*</b>		
<b>Income</b>		
Outright donations received	–	231,462
Entrance fees from participants	–	149,000
Advertisements in the souvenir programme	–	3,178
	–	383,640
<b>Less expenditure</b>		
Green fees, buggy fees etc	–	34,991
Breakfasts, lunches etc	–	12,584
Printing of souvenir magazine	–	2,775
Gifts, trophies and prizes	–	241
Staff transport claims and delivery charges	–	511
Banner for the event	–	880
Photography	–	1,422
	–	53,404
<b>Surplus</b>	–	330,236

## ***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.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Donations received	3,075	153,000
Other income	12,000	1,233
	15,075	154,233
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Bank charges	1	54
Law Awareness project - Law Cares	3,075	2,391
Law Awareness project - Project Schools	447	29,685
Law Awareness project - LegaleSE	20,025	66,600
Meeting expenses	313	358
Miscellaneous	51	20
Salaries and bonuses*	22,000	33,185
Staff allowance	124	991
	46,036	133,284
<b>Surplus for the financial year</b>	(30,961)	20,949
<b>Balance brought forward</b>	51,806	30,857
<b>Balance carried forward</b>	20,845	51,806

\* The salaries and bonuses related to those staff involved in the Law Awareness project - Project Schools.

# **10 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (cont'd)**

## ***Bar Memorial Scholarship Fund***

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.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Interest on fixed deposits	107	103
Balance brought forward	41,951	41,848
Balance carried forward	<u>42,058</u>	<u>41,951</u>

## ***Interfund - amount due from/(to)***

	← 2015 →			← 2014 →		
	Amount due from \$	Amount (due to) \$	Total \$	Amount due from \$	Amount (due to) \$	Total \$
General PBSO	687,483	–	687,483	223,980	–	223,980
CLAS	–	(1,380,127)	(1,380,127)	–	(841,766)	(841,766)
Law Awareness Fund	15,336	–	15,336	3,145	–	3,145
<b>Total</b>	<b>702,819</b>	<b>(1,380,127)</b>	<b>(677,308)</b>	<b>227,125</b>	<b>(841,766)</b>	<b>(614,641)</b>

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.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Sale of Publications	1,922	24,649
Sale of Gifts and Souvenirs	15,233	30,437
Sale of Consignment Items	2,040	6,556
	<u>19,195</u>	<u>61,642</u>
<b>LESS COST OF SALES</b>		
Opening inventories	24,661	33,331
Purchases and related costs	10,466	11,716
Closing inventories (Note 4)	(28,624)	(24,661)
	<u>6,503</u>	<u>20,386</u>
Gross surplus	12,692	41,256
Interest from fixed deposits	473	388
	<u>13,165</u>	<u>41,644</u>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Bank charges	264	561
Miscellaneous	–	18
Repair and maintenance	320	677
	<u>584</u>	<u>1,256</u>
Surplus for the financial year	12,581	40,388
Balance brought forward	145,900	105,512
Balance carried forward	<u>158,481</u>	<u>145,900</u>

## 12 Library Fund

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

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Interest from fixed deposits	345	262
Balance brought forward	48,389	48,127
Balance carried forward	<u>48,734</u>	<u>48,389</u>

### 13 Pastoral Care Fund

A Fund established to promote pastoral care programs for practitioners.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Practice Consult fee expenses	(1,620)	(2,880)
Balance brought forward	(5,070)	(2,190)
Balance carried forward	<u>(6,690)</u>	<u>(5,070)</u>

### 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.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<b>INCOME</b>		
Other Golf Competition fees recovered	5,720	157
Singapore/Malaysia Law Games ®	<u>53,180</u>	<u>77,129</u>
	<u>58,900</u>	<u>77,286</u>
<b>LESS EXPENDITURE</b>		
Bank charges	131	75
Miscellaneous	1,924	502
Inter-Professional Games	4,767	3,500
Insurance	135	
Other games	10,382	6,796
Singapore/Malaysia Law Games ®	<u>57,488</u>	<u>93,865</u>
	<u>74,827</u>	<u>104,738</u>
Deficit for the financial year	(15,927)	(27,452)
Balance brought forward	(44,066)	(16,614)
Balance carried forward	<u>(59,993)</u>	<u>(44,066)</u>

### SINGAPORE/MALAYSIA LAW GAMES ®

#### Income

Contributions/sponsorships received	52,900	65,433
Dinner and dance costs recovered	280	11,696
	<u>53,180</u>	<u>77,129</u>

#### Less expenditure

Games' Day Expenses	21,588	8,156
Dinner and dance	10,158	33,544
Refreshments and receptions	—	16,637
Souvenirs and plaques	9,536	12,677
Transport and travelling	3,860	5,663
Training	12,346	17,188
	<u>57,488</u>	<u>93,865</u>
Deficit	<u>(4,308)</u>	<u>(16,736)</u>

**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.

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Miscellaneous expenses	—	(100)
Balance brought forward	77,523	77,623
Balance carried forward	77,523	77,523

**16 Monies held in Trust**

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Pursuant to section 74 of the Legal Professional Act ("Section 74 money")	554,555	554,614
Education Fund under compulsory professional indemnity scheme	706,236	620,474
	1,260,791	1,175,088

Section 74 money comprises the following accounts:

	As at 1 April 2014 \$	Additions \$	Expenditure/ Transfers \$	Net change \$	As at 31 March 2015 \$
Jeffrey Soh & Co	80,856	9	—	9	80,865
Edwin Tay & Co	565	—	—	—	565
S Uthuman Ghani & Co *	6,277	—	25	(25)	6,252
David Rasif & Partners	29,303	—	—	—	29,303
Guofu *	20,948	12	—	12	20,960
Chor Pee & Partners *	72,060	14	840	(826)	71,234
CH Chua & Co *	25,650	—	—	—	25,650
David Khong & Associates	3,363	—	—	—	3,363
G K Emmanuel *	1,423	—	330	(330)	1,093
Chida Peri & Co	17,922	—	25	(25)	17,897
Ng Cher Yeow	2,551	2	—	2	2,553
Sadique Marican & Z M Amin	13,718	—	—	—	13,718
Boey Ng & Wan	264,426	2,140	—	2,140	266,566
Mustaffa & Co	14	76	90	(14)	—
TH Tan Raymond & Co	3,570	—	420	(420)	3,150
CM Chiong & Co	5,964	—	690	(690)	5,274
Christopher Yap & Co	3	108	—	108	111
H A Jalil & Associates	6,001	—	—	—	6,001
	554,614	2,361	2,420	(59)	554,555

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

## 17 Tax expense

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 tax due to the following factors:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Surplus before tax	<u>2,273,743</u>	<u>1,847,099</u>
Tax at statutory tax rate of 17%	386,536	314,007
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	13,695	23,138
Enhanced tax allowance	(62,447)	(61,843)
Income not subject to tax	(180,380)	(87,880)
Tax exemption	—	(13,813)
Income subject to lower tax rate	—	(5,491)
Utilisation of approved donations to the Division	(160,081)	(145,350)
Others	<u>2,677</u>	<u>(22,768)</u>
	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>

## 18 Grants received from the Ministry of Law

The grants were received from the Ministry of Law for the PBSO's IT systems in the future and will be amortised over the useful lives of the assets to be 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 Society. The purposes of the 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:

	2015 \$	2014 \$
<i>Financial assets</i>		
Receivables (excluding prepayments)	1,539,952	325,923
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	15,883,379	14,299,296
Loans and receivables	17,423,331	14,625,219
<i>Available-for-sale financial assets</i>		
Interest bearing securities	8,031,737	7,465,241
Equity instruments	2,182,560	2,015,130
	10,214,297	9,480,371
<i>Financial liabilities</i>		
Payables	522,539	305,226
Monies held in trust	1,260,791	1,175,088
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	1,783,330	1,480,314

### (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.

#### *Foreign exchange risk*

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

#### *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.

#### *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*

Receivables 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 which are regulated and have good credit standing.

#### *Financial assets that are either past due and/or impaired*

There are no financial assets that are either past due and/or impaired at the balance sheet date.

## **20 Financial instruments (cont'd)**

### **(b) Financial risk management (cont'd)**

#### ***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 2015, the Society's investment in equity instruments amounted to \$2,182,560 (2014: \$2,015,130). A 10% increase/decrease in the underlying equity prices at the balance sheet date would increase/decrease by equity of \$218,256 (2014: \$201,513).

#### ***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. 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.

No changes are made in the objectives, policies or processes during the financial years ended 31 March 2015 and 31 March 2014.

## 22 Lease commitments

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

	2015 \$	2014 \$
Not later than one financial year	210,848	210,848
Later than one financial year but not later than five financial years	249,272	460,120
	<b>460,120</b>	<b>670,968</b>

## 23 Fee paid to Council Members

No fee is paid to any member of the Council.

## 24 Interfund - amount due from/(to)

	← 2015 →			← 2014 →		
	Amount due from \$	Amount due to \$	Total \$	Amount due from \$	Amount due to \$	Total \$
General Fund	1,301,972	(705,423)	596,549	3,146,678	(2,591,031)	555,647
Other Funds	51,866	(62,901)	(11,035)	11,946	(86,414)	(74,468)
Pro Bono Learning and Support Services	702,819	(1,380,127)	(677,308)	627,487	(1,242,128)	(614,641)
	2,056,657	(2,148,451)	(91,794)	3,786,111	(3,919,573)	(133,462)
Compensation Fund	91,794	—	91,794	1,450,946	(1,317,484)	133,462
Total	2,148,451	(2,148,451)	—	5,237,057	(5,237,057)	—

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

## 25 Relationship with Insolvency Practitioners Association of Singapore Limited ("IPAS")

IPAS is incorporated in Singapore and its principal activities are as follows:

- Provision of a corporate identity and organisation for insolvency practitioners
- Associate, Fellow and Student registration
- Support and advancement of the status and interest of insolvency practitioners
- Provision of recognised qualifications for persons engaged in the practice of insolvency
- Promotion of the technical competence of insolvency practitioners
- Provision of updates on developments in insolvency legislation and proposals and latest insolvency judgments by Singapore Courts and other jurisdictions

IPAS is a company limited by guarantee whereby every member of IPAS undertakes to contribute to meet the debts and liabilities of IPAS in the event of its liquidation to an amount not exceeding \$10 for each member. The members of IPAS are Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants and the Society.

The Society has 50% representation on the Board of IPAS. However the Society's relationship with IPAS is only to the extent of a loose affiliation and in the event that IPAS is wound up or dissolved and if there are any remaining assets in IPAS after the satisfaction of all IPAS's debts and liabilities, the Society's share of such remaining assets of IPAS as determined by the Board of IPAS will not be received by the Society but will be distributed to such institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of IPAS.

Consequently, IPAS is not as an associate, a joint venture or an investment of the Society and as such, it is not recognised in the financial statements of the Society.

## **26 Authorisation of financial statements**

The financial statements of the Society for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Council dated 25 September 2015.



THE LAW SOCIETY  
OF SINGAPORE