

FOR JUSTICE, FOR COMMUNITY

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



THE LAW SOCIETY
OF SINGAPORE

OUR PEOPLE

01

The Council	Page 2
The Executive Committee	Page 3
Council Report	Page 4
The Secretariat	Page 6
President's Message	Page 7
CEO's Report	Page 10
Treasurer's Report	Page 17
Audit Committee Report	Page 21
Year in Review	Page 22
Statistics	Page 38

PRO BONO SERVICES

02

Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	Page 40
Community Legal Clinics	Page 52
Criminal Legal Aid Scheme	Page 67
Law Awareness	Page 71
Project Law Help	Page 73

GROWING OUR PRACTICE

03

Advocacy	Page 78
Alternative Dispute Resolution	Page 81
Civil Practice	Page 83
Continuing Professional Development	Page 85
Conveyancing Practice	Page 87
Corporate Practice	Page 89
Criminal Practice	Page 91
Family Law Practice	Page 94

03

Information Technology	Page 96
Insolvency Practice	Page 98
Intellectual Property	Page 99
International Relations	Page 101
Muslim Law Practice	Page 103
Personal Injury and Property Damage	Page 105
Probate Practice and Succession Planning	Page 107
Publications	Page 109
Public and International Law	Page 112
Small Law Firms	Page 113
Social and Welfare	Page 115
Solicitors' Accounts Rules	Page 117
Sports	Page 119
Young Lawyers	Page 121

04

ENHANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Admissions	Page 124
Anti-Money Laundering	Page 126
Inquiries into Inadequate Professional Services	Page 127
Report of the Inquiry Panel	Page 128

05

SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Compensation Fund	Page 138
Professional Indemnity	Page 140

Acknowledgements	Page 144
Financial Statements	Page 147

We are grateful to the Singapore Kindness Movement for permitting us to feature several Singa lion figurines in this annual report.

This page is intentionally left blank.



**OUR
PEOPLE**

The Council



*(Seated L to R): Lim Seng Siew, Dhillon Dinesh Singh, Kelvin Wong, Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President), Thio Shen Yi, SC (President), Tan Gim Hai Adrian (Treasurer), Anand Nalachandran, Chia Boon Teck, Tito Shane Isaac
(Standing L to R): Chung Ka Kay Katie, Lin Weiqi Wendy, Nicholas Thio Syn Wei, Yeo Chuan Tat, Tien De Ming Grismond, Simran Kaur Toor, Tan May Lian Felicia, Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran, Sunil Sudheesan*

Not in main picture:



Kuah Boon Theng
(Vice-President)



Lisa Sam Hui Min



Tan Beng Hwee
Paul

The Executive Committee



(L to R): Anand Nalachandran, Simran Kaur Toor, Gregory Vijayendran, Thio Shen Yi, SC, Tan Gim Hai Adrian, Lim Seng Siew, Dhillon Dinesh Singh

Not in main picture:



Kuah Boon Theng

Council Report

Outgoing Council Members for 2015

The term of the following Council members ended on 31 December 2015:

Lam Kuet Keng Steven
Parhar Sunita Sonya
Chiam Tao Koon
Chandradas Usha Ranee

Council Members for the Period 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2016

Senior Category (not less than 12 years' standing)

Thio Shen Yi, SC (President)
Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President)
Kuah Boon Theng (Vice-President)
Tan Gim Hai Adrian (Treasurer)
Lim Seng Siew
Dhillon Dinesh Singh
Chia Boon Teck
Tito Shane Isaac
Kelvin Wong
Lisa Sam Hui Min
Anand Nalachandran

Middle Category (7 to 12 years' standing)

Sunil Sudheesan
Yeo Chuan Tat
Chung Ka Kay Katie
Lin Weiqi Wendy
Tan May Lian Felicia
Tan Beng Hwee Paul

Junior Category (less than 7 years' standing)

Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran
Simran Kaur Toor
Nicholas Thio Syn Wei (until 30 August 2016)
Tien De Ming Grismond

The following members of Council for 2016 are **Statutory Members appointed by the Minister of Law to serve on the Council:**

Kelvin Wong
Kuah Boon Theng
Sunil Sudheesan

The following members of Council for 2016 are **Statutory Members appointed by Council to serve on the Council:**

Lim Seng Siew
Dhillon Dinesh Singh
Tito Shane Isaac

The following member of Council 2016 is a **Member appointed by Council to serve on the Council:**

Yeo Chuan Tat

Council Meetings

There were 4 ordinary meetings of the Council from September 2015 to December 2015. The attendance of members was as follows:

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

There were 8 ordinary meetings and 1 special meeting of the Council from January 2016 to August 2016. The attendance of members was as follows:

Member	Present	Absent
Thio Shen Yi, SC (President)	9	0
Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President)	8	1
Kuah Boon Theng (Vice-President)	8	1
Tan Gim Hai Adrian (Treasurer)	8	1
Lim Seng Siew	9	0
Dhillon Dinesh Singh	6	3
Chia Boon Teck	8	1
Tito Shane Isaac	7	2
Kelvin Wong	5	4
Lisa Sam Hui Min	6	3
Anand Nalachandran	9	0
Sunil Sudheesan	7	2
Yeo Chuan Tat	5	4
Chung Ka Kay Katie	6	3
Lin Weiqi Wendy	5	4
Tan May Lian Felicia	7	2
Tan Beng Hwee Paul	2	7
Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran	5	4
Simran Kaur Toor	5	4
Nicholas Thio Syn Wei	2	7
Tien De Ming Grismond	8	1

The Secretariat



*(Seated, left to right): Ambika Rajendram, Shawn Toh, Zaid Hamzah, Clifford Hang, Delphine Loo Tan
(2nd Row, left to right): Tan Su Lyn Claudine, Jean Wong, Sharmaine Lau, Jasmine Liew
(3rd Row, left to right): Daniel Tan, Michael Ho, Gopinath s/o B Pillai, Kenneth Goh, K Gopalan, Eoin Ó Muimhneacháin, Lim Tanguy*

Chief Executive Officer

Tan Su-Yin (until 23 March 2016)
Zaid Hamzah (from 24 March 2016)

Compliance

Daniel Tan, Asst Director, Acting Department Head

Conduct

Ambika Rajendram, Director, Department Head
K Gopalan, Director

Knowledge Management

Kenneth Goh, Director, Department Head

Pro Bono Services

Lim Tanguy, Director, Department Head
Gopinath s/o B Pillai, Director
Claudine Tan, Asst Director
Eoin Ó Muimhneacháin, Asst Director

Representation & Law Reform

Delphine Loo Tan, Director, Department Head
K Gopalan, Director

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

Administration

Clifford Hang, Director, Department Head

Information Technology

Michael Ho, Director, Department Head

Publications

Sharmaine Lau, Director, Department Head

President's Message

At the outset, I must thank our many volunteers and the staff of the Secretariat who undertake the day to day work of the Law Society. The members who volunteer their time and expertise are the indispensable core of our operations, and without you, we can do nothing. The Secretariat are the unsung heroes that oil our operations. We take them for granted, but they are both the institutional memory and the nerve centre of all that we do. It is a privilege and honour to work with them and to be a part of this.

Our previous CEO, Tan Su-Yin left the Law Society earlier this year. She had served us with distinction and reorganised the Secretariat of the Society into a far more effective and modern outfit, imposing on us much needed fiscal and operational discipline as the scope of our work increased. Our new CEO, Zaid Hamzah, comes to us with a desire and passion to help our small and medium sized firms find a firm foundation in the 21st century through the targeted adoption of the right technologies and smarter systems. This is a new season, and in the midst of regulatory, technological and economic change, how we "future proof" ourselves will have to be a consistent theme in the forefront of our thoughts.

We have in this respect, with the assistance of funding from the Ministry of Law, embarked on a deep dive survey into the needs of the small and medium sized firms. This focuses not only on technology adoption and needs, but on business processes and strategy. It has helped us understand where the gaps are. We are now working intensively on a pilot programme with a sample of firms to identify how the Law

Society can partner them in their implementation of specific technology and systems that will build value for them in terms of efficiency, sustainability and ultimately revenue. This is both an iterative and learning process for us, and once we complete this, we will work towards rolling it out more generally.

Of course, technology adoption and better business processes only take us so far. We also need to look at creating new roles for lawyers, and expanding the market for all our members. This requires a combination of developing new areas of work, as well as reducing any regulatory barriers and friction. To this end, we have looked into creating a Law Society Mediation Scheme (in addition to our Law Society Arbitration Scheme), which will, we hope, spread out work and create more roles for lawyers to act as mediators and arbitrators. Lawyers can act as paid deputies in cases where individuals have lost possession of their faculties and have no next of kin. We hope to give more flexibility for lawyers to provide online services through online aggregators or referrers, or the ability to structure more flexible fee arrangements either through the use of third party funding or our support of contingency/conditional fee arrangements in specific types of cases. In this respect, we will provide guidance through Practice Directions or Guidance Notes on how these issues can be navigated safely without compromising client service, confidentiality or compliance obligations.

We continue to uphold the Rule of Law in our work. Our focus has been on access to justice (more of that below), and access to counsel. The latter is something that I have commented on frequently,

and is admittedly, a work in progress. Right now, the tangible step taken has been the pilot video interview programme. Our Criminal Practice Committee will have to monitor the effectiveness of this and will no doubt advise the Council on what further steps we should advocate. The Law Society was also invited to comment on the new Administration of Justice Bill. We were largely supportive of the law of contempt being codified as a matter of principle, on the basis that clarity and defined boundaries were preferable to a situation where the scope of contempt had to be discerned from an analysis of case precedent, which would inevitably be incomplete. We were supportive of the tweaks made to the laws on scandalising the judiciary, as a strong and respected judiciary is fundamental to our aspirations to build Singapore as a regional and global legal hub. We were less enthusiastic about the retention of the rule restricting comment where proceedings were *sub judice*, believing it to have far less relevance in a legal system which no longer had jury trials. Some of our comments were accepted, and some were not – that is the nature of the consultative process. We accept that, but where our comments were not accepted, we will continue to keep those points alive as nothing is permanently cast in stone.

We have also finalised a protocol with the Courts concerning inappropriate conduct by counsel in Court ("ICC"). I wrote about this in an earlier *Law Gazette* message, but my hope is that the impact will be to de-escalate what might otherwise have been a complaint requiring a referral to the Inquiry Panel. The protocol is informal, voluntary and non-statutory, but the initial signs are favourable and suggest that it may ultimately reduce the number of statutory complaints against lawyers from the Courts as it catches ICC at an early stage with remedies that focus on awareness and education instead of sanction. On the other side of the coin, we have made informal efforts through our State

Courts members' lunches and my meetings with our Committee chairs to inform them of the proper channels of making complaints against judicial officers (through the Office of Public Affairs of the Supreme Court overseen by its CEO), as well as the Council's willingness to raise points informally and, where applicable, in an aggregated (and anonymised) manner – provided that we have sufficient particulars of the incident(s) in question.

Coming back to the access to justice issue, this year, we organised a fund-raising event, JustSing, which many of you would have attended or contributed to, or at least heard of. JustSing wasn't only to raise funds, but to generate awareness of the pro bono work that we as a profession undertake. Whether or not it raised widespread and sustainable awareness remains to be seen. What is tangible is that of the \$750,000 plus that we raised, over half came from outside the profession, from corporates who had little or no awareness of our work. We also took our Law Awareness Week to a completely different level, partnering all 5 CDCs and holding more than 70 talks over one month to the public. Next year, on the 10th anniversary of our Pro Bono Services Office, we take the next step of launching Pro Bono services as a separate but wholly owned Company Limited by Guarantee. This will enhance its governance, and in time, strengthen both its branding and financial independence.

Speaking about anniversaries, next year we mark the Law Society's 50th anniversary. This is a major milestone, and we have, *inter alia*, commissioned the publication of a coffee table book chronicling the history of our Society and intend to give each and every member a copy. It is entitled *Fiat Justitia – Fifty Years of the Law Society of Singapore*. The hope is to make this publishing project self-funding, and we have canvassed contributions from our members. In return, we will acknowledge and list the names and

AAS numbers of all contributors in order of seniority of call. We will do the same for contributing law firms, stating the year the law firm was founded, and listing them from the oldest to newest. I especially hope to see support from the more senior members of the fraternity and the heritage law firms.

In conclusion, may I record my gratitude and appreciation to the members of my Council, and in particular, to the Executive Committee of the Council, for all their support and guidance throughout a very interesting and eventful 2016. It has been my privilege to serve with each and every one of you.

Thio Shen Yi, Senior Counsel
President



CEO's Report

Strengthening Volunteerism and Growing the Legal Profession

In the run up to the Law Society's jubilee year in 2017, the year in review saw stepped up community service led by our volunteer lawyers, more donations from institutions and law firms received for our pro bono services and strengthening of bonds with other stakeholders in the legal ecosystem including the Courts, Attorney-General's Chambers, the Ministry of Law and Singapore Academy of Law amongst others.

The formation of the national Committee on the Future Economy with a sub-committee that includes the legal sector has also led to new initiatives being developed such as the Legal Industry Transformation Programme at the Law Society which seeks among others to accelerate the move up the value chain for the legal profession through technology adoption, the development of new skills and the export of legal services through internationalization.

This Report highlights the main themes and activities that seek to continue our lawyers' efforts to contribute to the community but also specific programmes that get the legal profession ready for the future economy. At the same time, given the increase in global political risks in the area such as anti-money laundering and cybersecurity attacks, no efforts have been spared to prepare the legal profession better to manage such risks.

This Report is divided into 4 main parts:

1. Community Service
2. Developments in the Legal Profession
3. Getting the Profession Ready for the Future
4. Secretariat Support

PART 1: COMMUNITY SERVICE

A. Pro Bono Legal Services

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

During the year under review, a total of 2,361 applications for aid were received under CLAS. Aid was granted for the said period for a total of 1,777 applications. The number of cases processed during this period was 23.4% higher than the preceding 12-month period up to 31 August 2015.

Annual Report Year	Cases Processed	Aid Granted	Percentage of Cases Aid was Granted Against Number of Applications
2016	2,361	1,777	75%
2015	1,913	1,018	53%

2. Volunteers

287 CLAS volunteer lawyers had taken up at least 1 case in the 12-month period up to 31 August 2016.

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

3. Formation of the CLAS Standards Sub-Committee

In light of the increased volume of assignments and the expansion of the CLAS volunteer pool, the CLAS Committee formed a Standards Sub-Committee this year to review some of the work being done

by volunteers by CLAS as well as to ensure that a consistent minimum standard of work is maintained across the whole volunteer pool and that a high standard of work is promoted generally.

4. Intended Expansion of Enhanced CLAS

The CLAS Committee established another sub-committee to evaluate whether additional offences should be included in the list of offences currently covered by CLAS. The sub-committee's work is ongoing and there are plans to engage the Courts to obtain empirical data to assist in deciding which additional offences to cover in the future.

5. CLAS Criminal Law Training Programme

CLAS launched its second run of the Criminal Law Training Program on 14 January 2016. The Programme consists of 29 modules on various criminal law topics delivered by senior practitioners, academics, experts and psychiatrists. The programme includes lessons at varying levels of complexity to cater to practitioners at all levels of seniority and with a view to substantially progressing a junior practitioner's competence in criminal practice at an accelerated rate.

B. Community Legal Clinic

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.

1. Clinic Expansion

Since the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the Mayor's Committee and the Law Society of Singapore was signed on 12 September 2014, legal clinics have been held every night from Mondays to Thursdays (excluding eve and public holidays) at the North West, South East, Central Singapore and South West CDCs. From April 2015 to March 2016, we received 2,717 registrations, of which 2,043 attended the clinics. During the same period, we also saw a 10.2% increase in the number

of lawyers (i.e. 180) volunteering at our clinics. Besides the CDC clinics administered by the Law Society, there are over 50 "satellite" clinics held at CCs/Community Clubs around the island. To date, 10 of these clinics have joined our network and benefited from insurance coverage for their volunteer lawyers, shared resources and access to a wide pool of volunteers, amongst other benefits.

2. Volunteer Clinic Manager Training Programme

The Committee piloted the Volunteer Clinic Manager Training Programme, which aims to train volunteers, including law students, foreign qualified lawyers and in-house counsel, as Clinic Managers to assist with administrative and operational duties at the legal clinics.

3. Specialised Legal Clinics

The Committee collaborates with numerous specialised organisations to provide targeted advice to specific segments of the community that frequently encounter legal issues. Through these collaborations, we have been able to reach out to marginalized populations, such as foreign workers, sex workers and victims of sexual abuse.

C. Project Law Help

The Project Law Help Committee's ("PLH Committee") mission is to provide pro bono corporate transactional legal advice and assistance to community organisations, i.e. charities, non-profit organisations and social enterprises. This is done through 2 main schemes: (a) Community Organisations Clinic; and (b) Project Law Help.

1. Schemes

(a) Community Organisation Clinic ("COC")

COC provides free basic legal advice and information to community organisations through a 45-minute consultation session. COCs are very useful for community organisations seeking legal advice and would like to speak to a lawyer, but do not need anything drafted or any legal representation.

(b) Project Law Help ("PLH")

PLH matches community organisations which qualify for assistance with law firms willing to provide free non-litigation commercial legal services. Examples of such legal services include corporate law, employment law, intellectual property law and other legal matters not involving Court litigation advice or representation. Successful applicants work directly with the law firm assigned.

2. Community Organisations Helped (Between 1 August 2015 to 3 August 2016)**(a) COC**

Number of Enquiries	50
Number Registered	29

(b) PLH

Number of Applications	16
Number of Successful Match-ups	14

3. Launch of Revised LEGALESE Toolkit

Legalese is a publication which aims to provide bite-sized pieces of information to the general public on the various legal aspects of setting up and running a social enterprise or non-profit entity. Published in December 2013, the first edition of Legalese focused solely on social enterprises. In this second edition of Legalese, the scope of the toolkit was expanded to support not only social enterprises but also non-profit organisations. The revised Legalese was launched on 1 July 2016.

4. Providing Holistic Support and Assistance

Where necessary, the PLH Committee meets with the representatives and visits their premises to better understand their operations and the work that they do. This enables the Committee to identify areas in which the organisations may require legal advice and assistance and to provide the necessary follow up support. Beyond legal advice and assistance through COC and PLH, the Committee also provides support on a broader scale, such as organising legal awareness talks.

5. Collaboration with Key Partners

The PLH Committee works closely with the key agencies in this sector, including the Charity Council, NCSS and Singapore Centre for Social Enterprises ("raiSE"). Increased collaboration between the PLH Committee and these external organisations has been instrumental in allowing the Committee to reach out to a much wider network of community organisations.

PART 2: DEVELOPMENTS IN THE LEGAL PROFESSION**A. Admissions****1. Admission of Advocates and Solicitors**

A total of 695 applicants were admitted as advocates and solicitors of the Supreme Court of Singapore compared to 662 applicants who were admitted during the last reporting period. The Mass Call was held over 3 consecutive sessions on 26 August 2016 and 27 August 2016 at the Supreme Court Auditorium. 509 applicants were admitted. There were 535 applicants admitted in the 22 August 2015 Mass Call.

2. Part-Call Applications

There were 67 applications for part-call for this reporting period, compared to 47 applications during the last reporting period. Out of the 67 applications, 63 were allowed and 4 were dismissed by the High Court. The dismissal was due to the practice trainees' supervising solicitors were late for the hearing.

B. Continuing Professional Development

The Law Society's CPD programmes continued its active programmes this past year. Over 55 seminars, workshops and conferences were organised and supported by the Society from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, which attracted more than 4,700 registrations from both members and non-members. With the implementation of the Mandatory CPD Scheme for lawyers with up to 15 years of practice experience, the CPD Committee, together

with the various practice committees, reviewed and designed a diverse range of programmes to cater to the different categories of our membership.

Some highlights of the CPD calendar this year include:

- a. 2nd National Insolvency Conference organised by the Insolvency Practice Committee on 11 September 2015;
- b. SG50: Biennial Lecture + Annual CPD Day 2015 jointly organised by the CPD Committee and the International Relations Committee in celebration of Singapore's Golden Jubilee, on 8 & 9 October 2015;
- c. Litigation Conference Workshop 2016 organised by the Civil Practice Committee (7 & 8 April 2016);
- d. Moving the "Ethics in Practice for Practice Trainees" programme to an e-learning platform which allows more than 600 practice trainees to learn and apply basic ethical principles and precepts through the use of interactive online exercises and case scenarios;
- e. Mediation Symposium organised by the ADR Committee on 20 May 2016;
- f. Criminal Law Conference organised in collaboration with the Attorney-General's Chambers, Association of Criminal Lawyers of Singapore and Singapore Academy of Law on 14 & 15 July 2016; and
- g. More professional skills-based programmes for practitioners such as business analysis skills, networking skills and leadership development for legal practitioners.

C. Alternative Dispute Resolution

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee (the "ADR Committee") is divided into 3 Sub-Committees that focus on different areas of alternative dispute resolution. The Sub-Committees are: Law Society Arbitration Scheme, Mediation and International Arbitration. For the year in review, the ADR Committee has actively been involved in a variety of activities including:

- a. The inaugural Mediation Symposium sought to deepen insights on mediation and raise awareness on the mediation programmes available to the public.
- b. Panel discussion on "ADR Trends and Insights: How the Changes in the Supreme Court Practice Directions Affects You and Your Clients".
- c. Seminar on the "Arbitration or International Commercial Litigation – Same Same, but Different?" seminar which took place on 24 May 2016.

1. Law Society Arbitration Scheme ("LSAS")

The LSAS Sub-Committee has taken on the task of reviewing the existing LSAS procedures and rules in an effort to promote better synergy between the schemes. This has led to the introduction of a new arbitration-mediation-arbitration process into the LSAS to better cater to the needs of the users. To further promote wider use of the LSAS, the ADR Committee is also exploring the possibility of working with mediation institutions such as the Singapore Mediation Centre ("SMC") to have the LSAS implemented as the "to go to" scheme for the arbitration leg of their mediation-arbitration process.

2. Law Society Mediation Scheme ("LSMS")

In line with preparations for the launch of the LSMS, members were invited to apply for appointment to the panel of the LSMS. The closing date for the application was 15 August 2016. The applications received are currently being reviewed with a view to constituting the panel in time for the official launch of the LSMS.

D. Small Law Firms

1. Programmes for Small Law Firms

The Small Law Firms Committee continued its collaboration with the State Courts & Family Justice 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 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 Committee also, together with the Information Technology Committee, supported the Law Society Technology Day held on 8 July 2016. The event provided practitioners with an insight into some of the systems, strategies, processes and platforms offered by the industry's legal technology providers.

2. Phase 2 of the Data Repository of Precedents

This is a continuation of the Committee's initiative to provide small law firm practitioners with a resource database of sample precedents. The Committee decided to expand the scope and improve the pre-existing precedents currently in the member's library. Some of the precedents that will be uploaded onto the member's library include a statutory demand under Companies Act, non-disclosure agreement, constitution of a society, cease and desist letter for defamation and copyright infringement.

E. Anti-Money Laundering

In November 2015, the Financial Action Task Force ("FATF") conducted its mutual evaluation exercise in Singapore. This exercise involved a number of industries, including the legal sector. Both the Law Society (regulatory body) and members of the legal profession were interviewed by FATF on the measures taken by their law practices in respect of addressing the risks of money laundering and financing of terrorism. The FATF report is expected to be published and circulated in the third quarter of 2016. The Committee also increased its outreach measures of the new AML legislation by organising additional AML seminars in August and November 2015. The Law Society carried out its yearly AML inspections of law practices between September and October 2015. The results of these inspections was positive. The law practices involved in the

inspections demonstrated a good awareness of the new AML legislation which came into effect in May 2015.

In May 2016, the AML Committee Chairperson delivered a talk to the Small Law Firms Committee at the State Courts on lawyers fulfilling their AML obligations. In May 2016, the Committee decided to conduct an industry wide survey to determine which law practices had a higher risk of potentially being used by clients for money laundering purposes. In June 2016, the online AML survey was disseminated to all law practices in Singapore. The response rate of the survey was encouraging. From the survey results, the Committee applied a risk-based approach to select a number of law practices to be inspected in 2016, pursuant to section 70F of the Legal Profession Act. The Committee also decided that it was necessary to significantly increase the volume of AML inspections and a comprehensive inspection plan was drawn up. This is consistent with the approach taken by other regulatory bodies which are stepping up their regulatory checks in this area.

F. Compensation Fund

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.

For the period under review from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Committee received 4 fresh applications for a claim to the Compensation Fund. Three applications were rejected as the alleged loss did not arise from any dishonesty. One application was approved for payment. A total sum of \$1,000.00 was approved for the period under review.

G. Young Lawyers

The Young Lawyers Committee (the "YLC") strives to address the needs and concerns of members in the "Junior Category" i.e. those with less than 7 years of experience in practice, which constitutes a large sector of the membership. The YLC embarked on a new initiative to reach out to Junior Colleges in Singapore and Temasek Polytechnic (which runs the Diploma in Law course) to share with students on law as a career at career fairs in view that law is one of the popular courses in Universities. Between March to July 2016, members of the YLC have participated in career fairs at Pioneer Junior College, Bukit Panjang Government High School, Serangoon Junior College, Catholic Junior College and Temasek Polytechnic. The YLC hopes to reach out to more Junior Colleges in 2017.

To encourage more young lawyers to attend overseas conferences, the Law Society had in early 2016 inaugurated a new sponsorship scheme to sponsor up to 4 young lawyers per year to attend international legal conferences organised by the International Bar Association, Inter-Pacific Bar Association ("IPBA") or LAWASIA.

PART 3: GETTING READY FOR THE FUTURE

A. Legal Industry Needs Study

The year in review saw the rollout of the Legal Industry Needs Study, a project carried out by the Law Society to support the small and medium Singapore law practices. The Law Society is grateful to the Ministry of Law for funding this study that seeks to understand the needs of small to medium sized

law firms and how they can be supported to boost their long-term capabilities to remain competitive in the increasingly competitive international legal landscape.

An action plan has been developed and this will be implemented in the coming years involving areas such as professional development, sharpening of business and marketing skills and the adoption of technologies that would enhance efficiency and productivity.

B. Singapore's Legal and Accounting Services Sectors for the Future

A Working Group has been set up under the national Committee on the Future Economy ("CFE") to develop strategies to position Singapore's Legal and Accounting Services sectors well for the future. In developing its recommendations, the Working Group has reviewed the following areas:

- Key demand drivers and growth areas, strategies and capabilities for firms to remain relevant, increase their exports of services and seize opportunities abroad;
- Potential disruptors such as technology, new business models and new entrants;
- Skillsets required, including those needed to adapt to changes, and how talent can be attracted and developed; and
- Supporting infrastructure and services for the sectors.

The President of the Law Society, Senior Counsel Thio Shen Yi, represented the Law Society in the above Working Group and at the time of writing, the draft recommendations are being prepared. At the Law Society's end, a working group led by the CEO has set up the Legal Industry Transformation Programme ("LITP") and aligned its programme with the CFE Working Group and is currently implementing a pilot programme lasting 6 months. The LITP involves collaboration with the Ministry of Law, Singapore Academy of Law, IE Singapore and SPRING.

The LITP has been developed as part of the LSS 3 year Strategic Plans. Following consultations with groups of law firms and legal technology providers and consultations, a series of industry briefings have been held to solicit feedback on the strategy and programs for the LITP.

C. Legal Industry Transformation Programme ("LITP")

1. Objectives

- Find new sources of growth for law firms through internationalization.
- Optimize the use of technology to improve productivity, raise efficiency and accelerate capabilities for higher value creation.
- Create a roadmap for Singapore law firms to move up the value chain through new business models and legal service innovation.
- Explore new practice areas where Singapore law firms can create a new source of competitive advantage regionally and internationally in emerging fields such as cybersecurity, financial technology, clean and green technology, big data and predictive analytics and Islamic finance.
- Promote the adoption of Singapore law in cross border transactions.

At the time this Annual Report is being prepared, a 6-month Pilot Programme under the LITP involving about 30 law firms is being implemented.

PART 4: SECRETARIAT SUPPORT

I took over as CEO of the Law Society in March 2016. Together with the senior management team at the Secretariat, a 3 year Strategic Plan for the Law Society has been developed covering among others:

- Legal Industry Transformation Programme
- Strategic Enhancement of Pro Bono Services
- Deepening strategic relationship with stakeholders in the legal industry
- Continuing to ensure financial discipline at the Law Society to ensure financial sustainability

At the working operational level, the Secretariat has started to embark on a management development programme that would enable Secretariat staff to keep up with changes in the legal industry including reskilling for the future economy and the emergence of technology shifts that would have a fundamental effect on the future of the legal profession.

Highlights of other changes being implemented at the Secretariat include:

- Finding new sources of revenue for the Law Society beyond the 2 traditional sources of revenue comprising members' subscription and fees from continuing professional development courses. This would include generating e-commerce revenues.
- Taking a more strategic and preventative approach to prevent allegations of bad behaviour and unprofessional conduct among practitioners through long-term education aimed at promoting ethical behaviour.
- Implementing a data-centric approach in managing programmes across the different areas from pro bono services, continuing professional education and conduct and compliance programmes.

As part of the Secretariat Human Capital Development Programme, a new Management Associate Programme has been launched to ensure that the second line management team at the Secretariat is always ready to support the senior management team at the Secretariat.

Zaid Hamzah
Chief Executive Officer



Treasurer's Report

The financial year ended 31 March 2016 has been another busy year for the Law Society. The year has seen the 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 4 other members. The members are Kuah Boon Theng, Gary Pryke, Kelvin Wong and Michael S. Chia. 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 2016 ("**Current Financial Year**").

A. Income and Expenditure - General Fund

Our General Fund reported a before-tax surplus of \$0.99 million for the Current Financial Year (cf a before-tax surplus of \$1.04 million for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 ("**Previous Financial Year**"). Total income in the Current Financial Year increased by 2% to \$6.17 million whilst total expenditure increased to \$5.17 million.

Income

The main factor which contributed to the 2% increase in income was the increase in subscriptions received from practising members which increased by about 5% to \$4.81 million, in line with an increase in the total number of practising members from 4,997 to 5,328.

Net surplus (before overheads allocation) from Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") programmes and conferences decreased to \$771,709 (cf \$980,429 in the Previous Financial Year) due to fewer conferences held during the financial year.

Investment income, income from fixed deposits increased by 24% with a spike in interest rates for a short period before rates started decreasing shortly after financial year end. Revenue from advertisements in the Society's directory and classifieds remained relatively constant.

Other income increased to \$143,669 from \$97,002 due mainly to an increase in penalty collections as well as a grant from Infocomm Development Authority relating to the Personal Data Protection Act.

Expenditure

The following were the main reasons for the increase in total expenditure to \$5.17 million, an increase of 3.6% or \$180,313:

- (a) Increase in the Society's mandatory contribution to the SILE, from \$494,930 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$519,260, in line with the increase in ordinary members;
- (b) Expenditure for Council activities (including meetings and events) increased from \$145,731 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$181,300; and
- (c) Increase in personnel expenditure from \$2.62 million to \$2.99 million representing an increase of \$0.37 million or 14% as staffing was increased to meet the demands of the enlarged scope of activities.

Partially offset by a decrease in expenditure from the following:

- (a) Decrease in administrative expenses from \$0.86 million to \$0.79 million, with the decrease due largely to the decrease in one off expenses in relation to the renovations at the Secretariat office at 39 South Bridge Road in the previous financial year;
- (b) Decrease in the Society's donation to support the activities of Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services, from \$650,000 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$562,459; and
- (c) Expenditure on regulatory matters decreased to \$129,957 compared to Previous Financial Year of \$213,653.

B. Income and Expenditure - Compensation Fund

The increase in net overall surplus, from \$697,517 in the Previous Financial Year, to \$941,484 can be attributed to the following:

- (a) Total income increased by 33% or \$255,151 to \$1,016,536 due partly to an amount of \$182,058 relating to unclaimed moneys transferred under the Legal Profession Act First Schedule Part II Section 11(3). Members' contribution also increased by about 7% in line with the increase in membership whereas investment related income increased by 17%.

- (b) Total expenditure increased from \$63,868 in the Previous Financial Year to \$75,052. There was a grant of \$1,000 paid in the Current Financial Year under Section 75(9) of the Legal Profession Act.

C. Income and Expenditure - Pro Bono Learning and Support Services

There was an overall surplus of \$994,528 for the Current Financial Year, compared to a surplus of \$537,867 in the Previous Financial Year.

Key highlights are as follows:

- (a) Increase in income by 52% to \$4.61 million resulting from an increase in the donations and grants received, including the following:

Ministry of Law	increase of \$760,000
Contribution from NCSS (Care & Share matching grant)	increase of \$1,253,070
Contribution to the CLAS fellowship	increase of \$434,861
Singa adoption & donation	increase of \$29,805
TOTE Board computerisation	increase of \$28,601
National Youth Council	increase of \$10,000

Partially offset by a decrease in income from the following:

Law Society of Singapore - General Fund	decrease of \$87,541
Just Walk (January 2015)	decrease of \$1,018,467
Contribution from NCSS for Appropriate Adult Scheme	decrease of \$63,567

- (b) Increase in expenditure of 45% or \$1.12 million to \$3.62 million, attributable to:
- Increase in administrative expenditure to \$695,968 (*cf* \$383,114 for the Previous Financial Year), due to amortisation of intangible assets and disbursement charged by volunteer lawyers, in line with the needs of enhanced CLAS.
 - Increase in enhanced CLAS honorariums for volunteers by \$0.31 million.
 - Increase in personnel cost including CLAS fellows of \$ 0.5 million.
- (f) 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 3.2% per annum. The net income from investments was \$355,865 (*cf* \$310,266 in the Previous Financial Year). There was a surplus of \$385,722 in the fair value reserve of the Society's investments (representing the increase in the market value as at 31 March 2016 over the historical transacted price). As at 31 March 2016, the Society had invested in the following bonds and equities in addition to a \$2 million discretionary portfolio management sum placed with BNP Paribas.

D. Other Funds

- (a) Other Funds comprises the Sports Meet Fund, Welfare Fund, Library Fund, Jus Curio Fund and Pastoral Care Fund;
- (b) Overall, there was a deficit of \$19,323 for the Other Funds (*cf* a deficit of \$4,621 in the Previous Financial Year). This was due mainly to the increased expenditure for the hosting of the Bench and Bar Games in Singapore.

E. Balance Sheet

The key highlights of the Balance Sheet of the Society as at 31 March 2016 are as follows:

- (a) General Fund reserves stood at \$17.61 million, an increase of about 5.4%, principally from the surplus for the Current Financial Year.
- (b) General Fund total assets amounted to \$20.04 million, including \$6.34 million being held as fixed deposits, cash at bank and in hand, and \$5.4 million being held as bonds and equity investments;
- (c) Compensation Fund total assets amounted to \$13.18 million, including \$6.28 million being held as fixed deposits, cash at bank and in hand, and \$6.52 million being held as bonds and equity investments;
- (d) General Fund total liabilities stood at \$2.43 million, partly in relation to advance payment of the application fees for the practising certificates for FY2016/2017, which were received prior to 31 March 2016;
- (e) The Society had no external borrowings;

Bonds and Bond Funds

- » ABN Amro Bank
- » Asceit Trust
- » Ascendas Hospitality Trust
- » Ascott Capital
- » CDL
- » CWT
- » DBSS
- » FCL Treasury
- » First Reit
- » Franklin Templeton
- » Fullerton Bond Fund
- » Gucoland
- » HDB
- » Hotel Properties Ltd
- » Keppel Corporation
- » Lend Lease
- » LMIRT Capital
- » LTA
- » Malayan Banking Bhd
- » Morgan Stanley
- » NOL
- » OUE
- » Perennial
- » SIA
- » Standard Chartered 4
- » Suntec
- » UOL

Equities

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

F. Conclusion

The Law Society's strong financial performance despite the increased activities and costs challenges during the Current Financial Year is in no small part due to the vigilance, controls and efforts of the Law Society's previous CEO, Tan Su-Yin and the current CEO, Zaid Hamzah, 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 – Kuah Boon Theng, Kelvin Wong, Gary Pryke, and Michael S. Chia, for their unwavering support, counsel, guidance and contributions. The Finance Committee needs to be mindful of the financial needs of the Society, and at the same time, exercise prudent financial direction and controls in overseeing the funds of the Society. It is not always an easy balance.

The coming year will be an even busier one, with the projected increase in the activities of the various committees, and the expansion and advancement of the Law 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.

Tan Gim Hai Adrian
Treasurer



Audit Committee Report

Michael Hwang, SC, Chairperson

The members of the Audit Committee are:

- Adrian Chan
- Patrick Ang
- Robson Lee

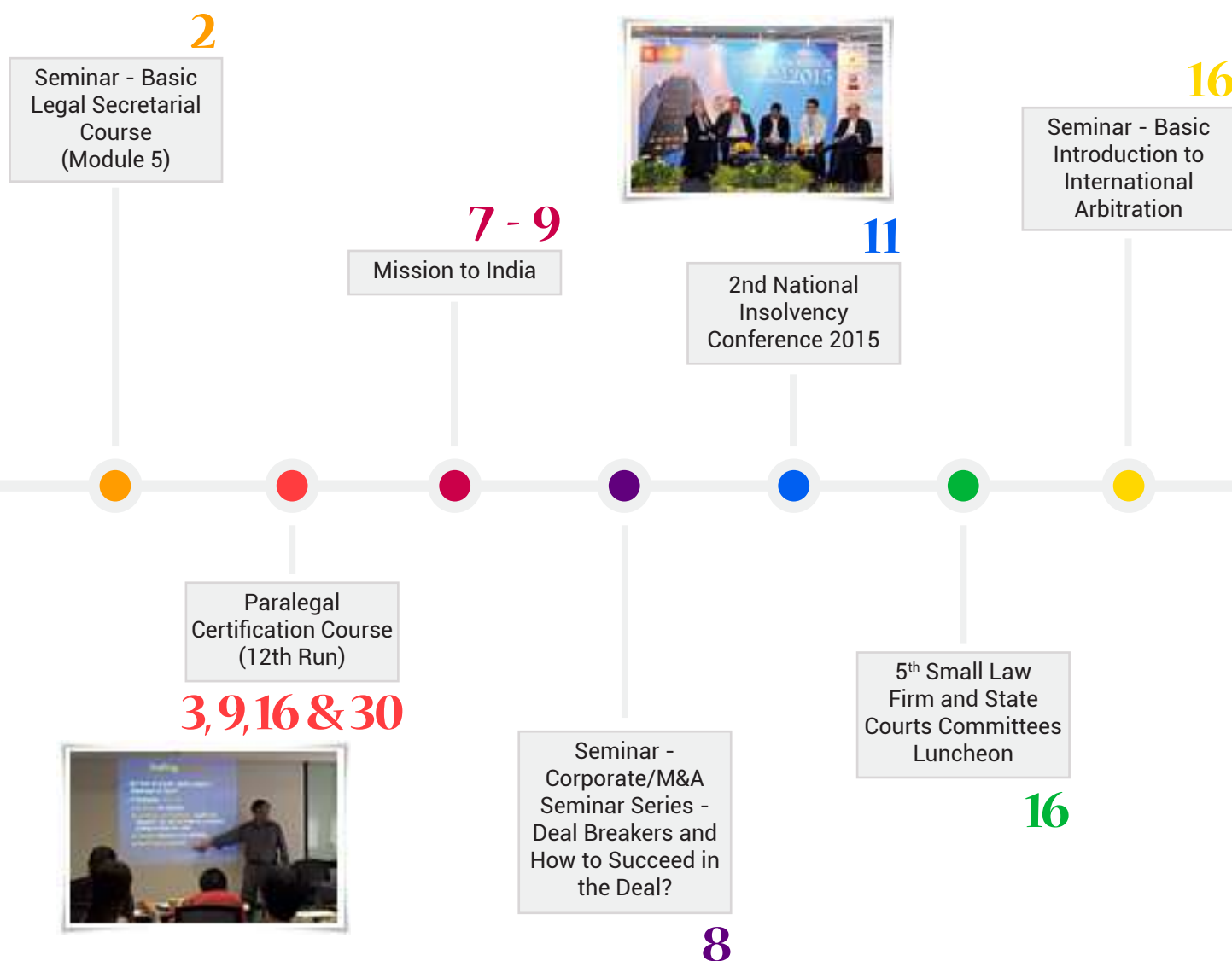
The external auditors, Baker Tilly TFW LLP issued a clean Audit Opinion on the financial statements of the Law Society for the year ended 31 March 2016.

During the reporting year, the Audit Committee appointed Crowe Horwath First Trust Risk Advisory Pte Ltd the internal auditors and to review the corporate governance practices of the Society.

The scope of review included Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services on governance review, payments and petty cash as well as receipt of donations/grants and fund-raising. The review is currently on going.

The Secretariat continues its efforts to evaluate and improve internal controls across all operational and financial processes. Greater emphasis will continue to be placed on raising the awareness of the management team and support staff to improve internal controls and financial protocols to support the Society's continuing goals of financial discipline, efficient processes and robust governance from an audit perspective.

Year in Review



SEPTEMBER 2015

23

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



17

Seminar - Making
the Point - Effective
Legal Opinion
Writing



29

LawWorks Legal
Primer on Data
Protection



Dinner Hosted for The
Right Honourable The Lord
David Neuberger, President
of the Supreme Court of
the United Kingdom

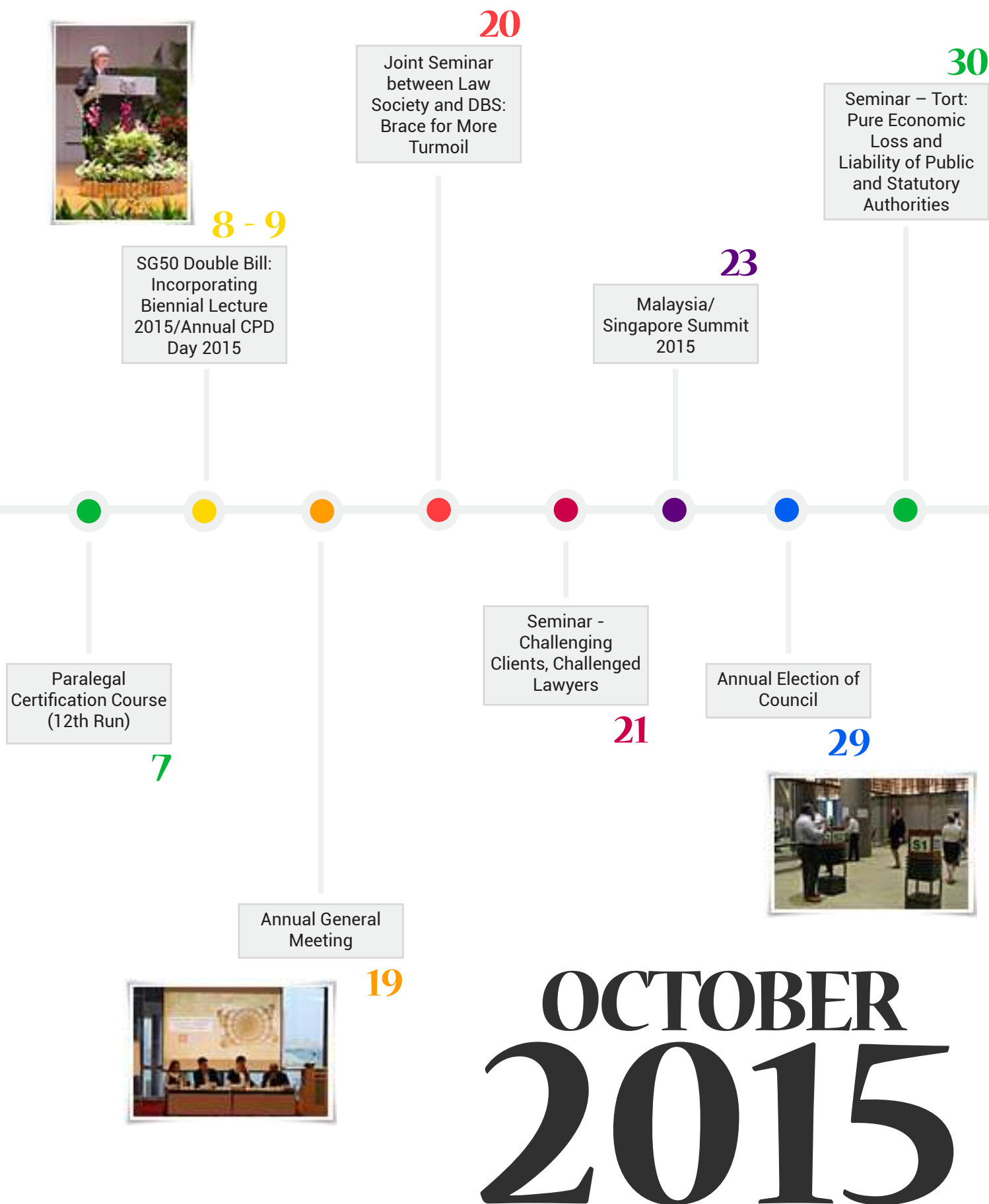
19

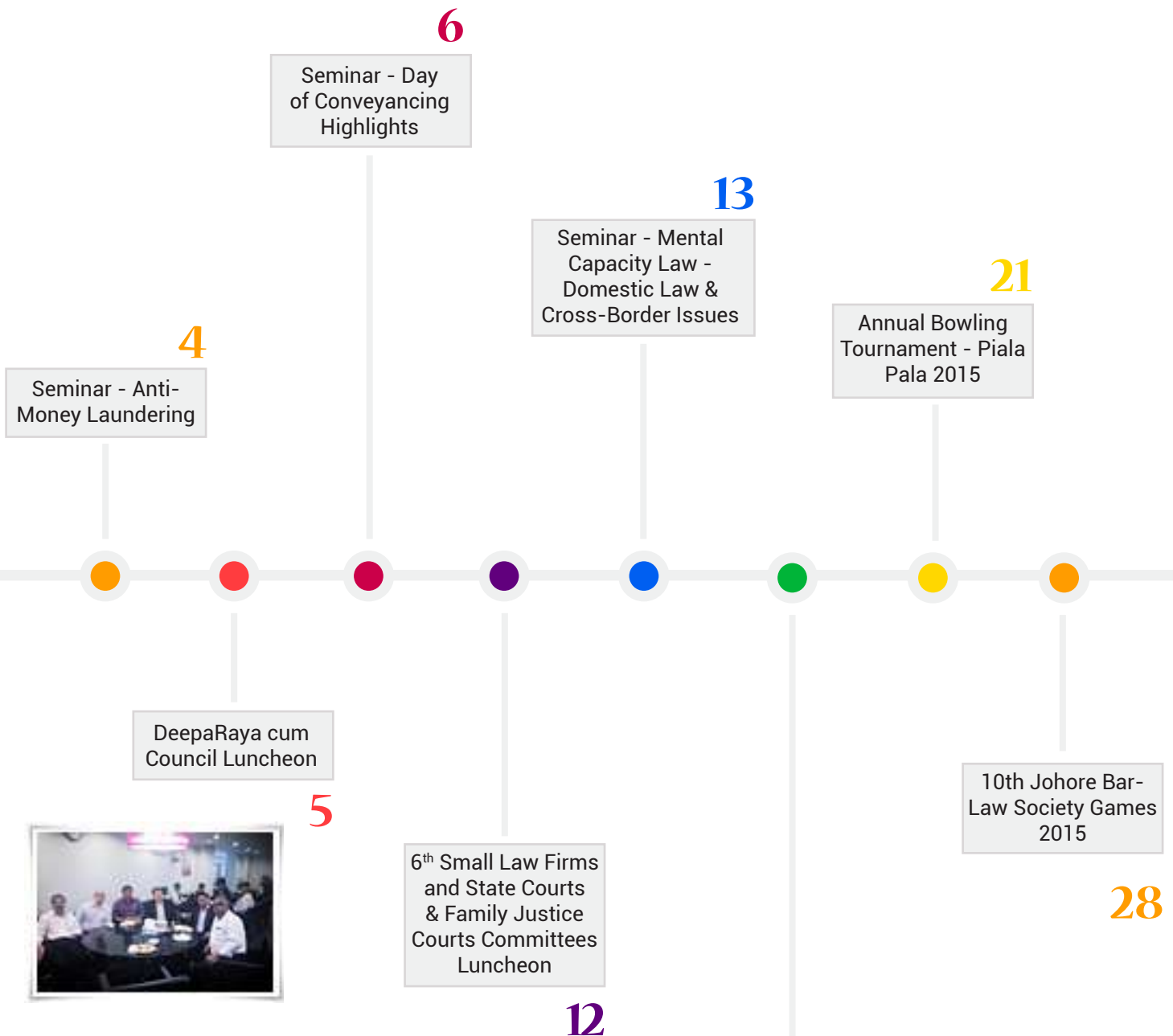
Networking Event
at the Breitling
Boutique

25



SEPTEMBER 2015





NOVEMBER 2015

3

LawWorks Legal
Primer - Workplace
Harassment



The Law Society
Trial Advocacy
Course 2015

9 - 11



DECEMBER
2015



29

Thank You Dinner
for Volunteers

14JAN - 18AUG

The CLAS Criminal Law
Training Programme

Seminar - Risk &
Compliance - Business
Benefits of Risk
Management

6-7

Law Fraternity
Games 2016

17



JANUARY
2016



3-4

Legal Practice
Management
Course (18th Run)

23

Seminar - Updates
on Competition
Law



Parenting
Coordination
Training
Programme

1-3

Lunar New Year
Luncheon

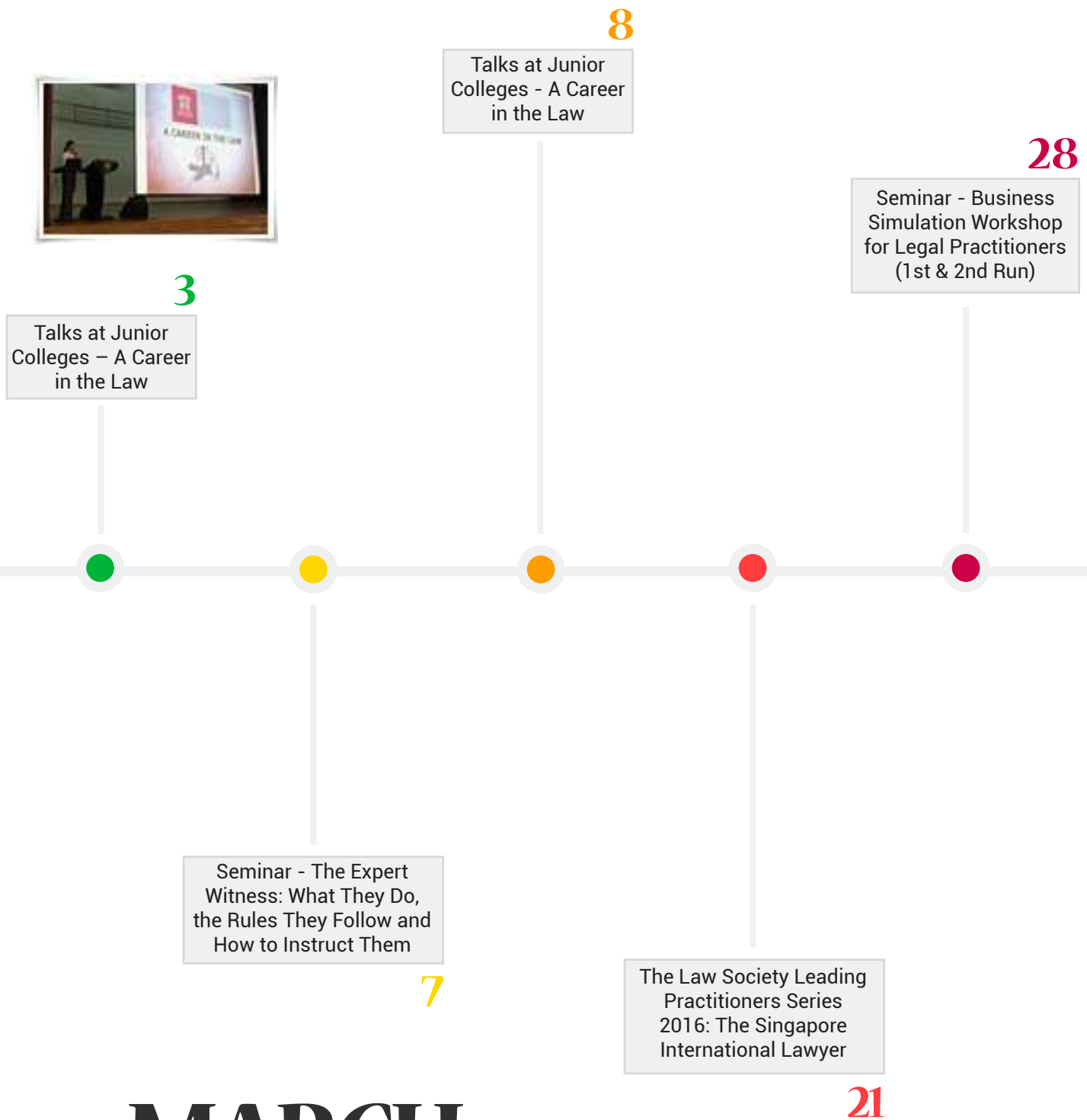
15



1st Small Law Firms
and State Courts
& Family Justice
Courts Committees'
Luncheon

25

FEBRUARY 2016



MARCH
2016



29

Seminar - Lessons from
Inter-state Arbitration:
The Singapore/Malaysia
Railway Case



31

Inaugural Criminal
Bar-AGC Ladies'
Cup

LawWorks
Legal Primer on
Workplace Bullying
in Singapore

31



Seminar - Business
Simulation Workshop
for Legal Practitioners
(3rd Run)

29

MARCH
2016



7-8

Litigation
Conference
Workshop 2016

28

Book-Keeping
for Law Practices
Course 2016



Talks at Junior
Colleges - A Career
in the Law

7

Seminar - ADR Trends and
Insights: How the Changes in
the Supreme Court Practice
Directions (Amendment to
No 1 of 2016) Affects You
and Your Clients

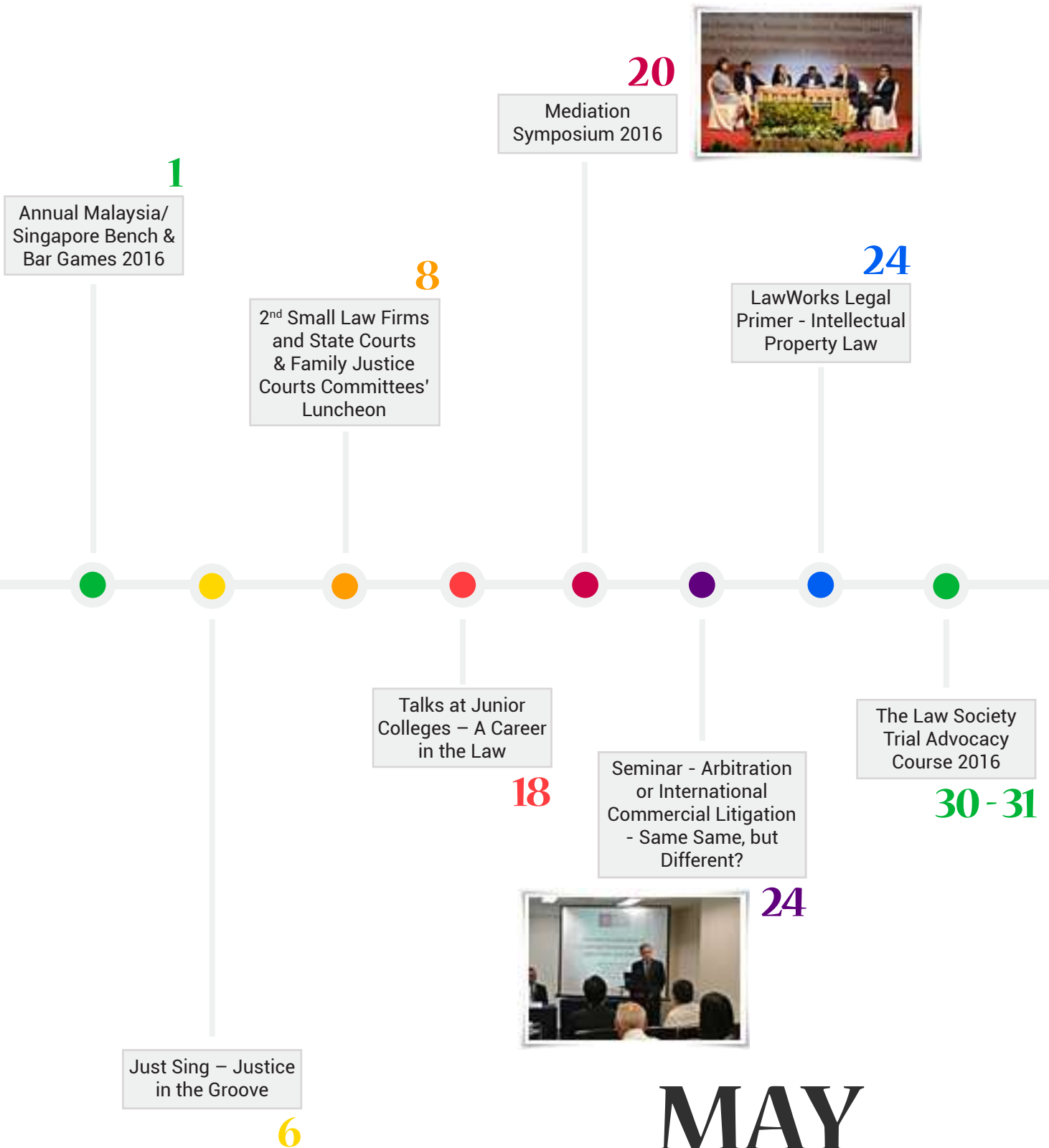
27

Annual Malaysia/
Singapore Bench &
Bar Games 2016

29



APRIL 2016



MAY
2016

2

2nd Council
Luncheon with
Members



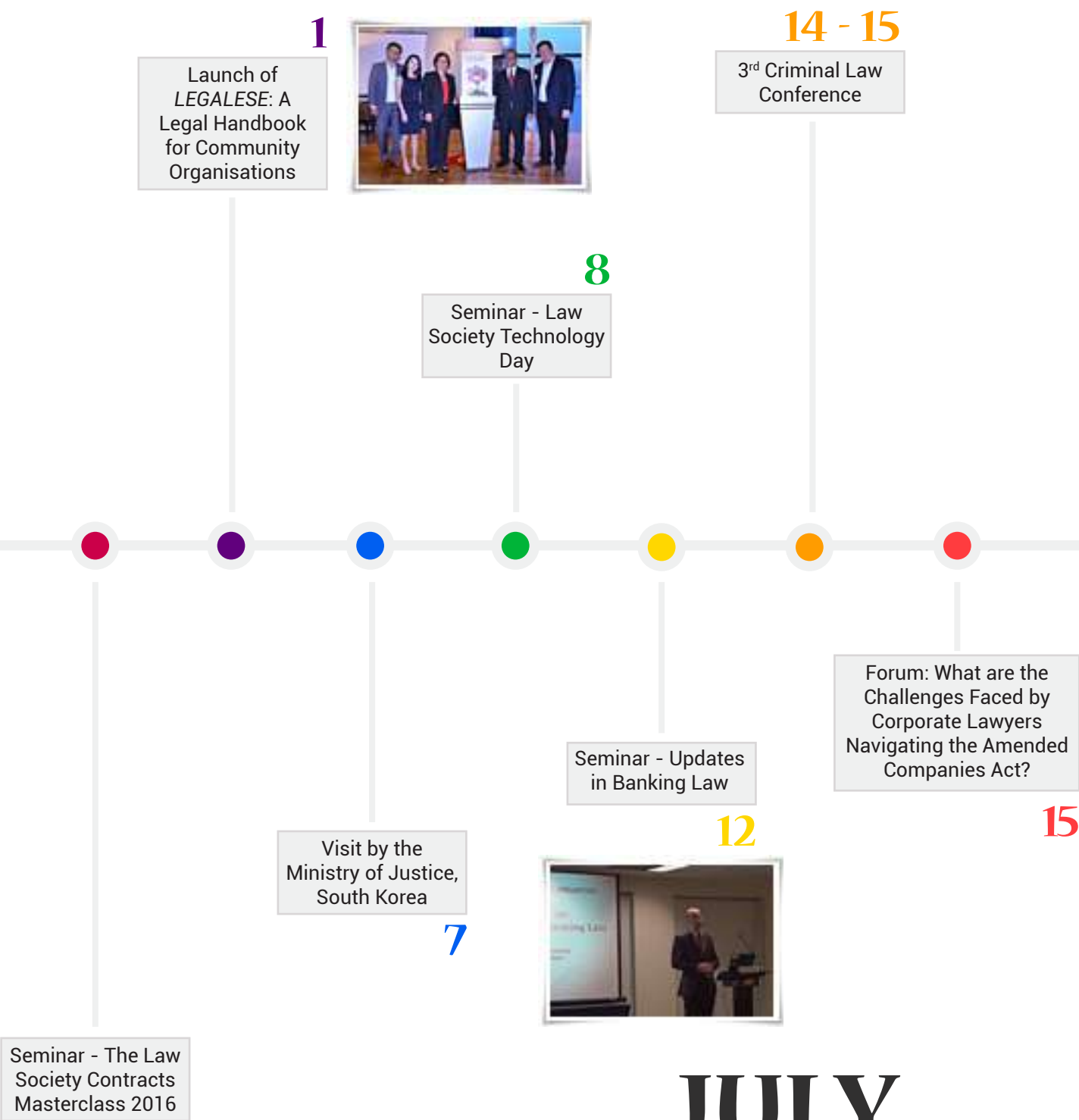
24

Seminar - Legal
Profession (Solicitors'
Accounts) Rules for
Practice Trainees

Seminar - ADR Trends and
Insights: How the Changes in the
Supreme Court Practice Directions
(Amendment to No 1 of 2016)
Affect You and Your Clients

9

JUNE
2016



JULY
2016

16

Local Bench & Bar Games 2016



28

3rd Small Law Firms and State Courts & Family Justice Courts Committees' Luncheon

26

Basic Written Advocacy Workshops (Module 1)

29

Seminar - The Art of an eTrial

31

Joint Seminar between Law Society and DBS: Market Update, July 2016

19 - 20

Seminar - Developing Personal Effectiveness for Legal Practitioners

JULY 2016



3

Legal Secretarial
Course (Module 1)

15

Basic Written
Advocacy
Workshops
(Module 1)

24

Legal Secretarial
Course (Module 3)

Seminar - Data Security
in Law Firms: Enabling
Secure File Sharing &
Mobile Productivity

3

Legal Secretarial
Course (Module 2)

18

AUGUST 2016



29

Lunch Meeting with
the Chief Justice of
Singapore

25

Series of Probate
Seminars - Muslim
Inheritance Law
(Part 1)

31

Legal Secretarial
Course (Module 4)

Mass Call

26 - 27



Seminar -
Networking Skills
for Lawyers - Guide
and Tips to Market
Yourself and Your
Law Practice

25

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

30 - 31

AUGUST
2016

Statistics

As at 31 August 2016

Comparison of Size of Law Practices in the Last Five Years

Year	1 to 5 lawyers	6 to 30 lawyers	> 30 lawyers
2012	702	106	19
2013	710	108	20
2014	704	126	18
2015	729	128	22
2016	715	127	21

Profile of Practitioners

No. of Practitioners in Last Five Years

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
No. of Practitioners	4,334	4,486	4,412	4,834	4,885

Years in Practice Based on Date of Admission

Year	< 7 years	7 to 12 years	> 12 years
2016	1,951	430	2,504

New Practitioner Categories With Effect From 1 August 2016

Year	< 5 years	5 to 15 years	> 15 years
2016	1,644	923	2,318

Gender

Year	Male	Female
2016	2,829	2,056



PRO BONO SERVICES

Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services

Vision and Mission

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

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

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

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

PLSS was established by the Law Society to:

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

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

- (a) facilitate the recruitment and mobilization of volunteers for pro bono services through:
 - i. the presentation of a range of pro bono volunteer opportunities catering to different interests, time commitments and legal/practice expertise; and
 - ii. the transfer of skills, know-how and a positive pro bono spirit from senior volunteers to junior volunteers.
- (b) facilitate volunteer networking, the transfer and dissemination of information and ideas among volunteers and the organic development of pro bono initiatives to meet needs/gaps in the legal assistance framework.
- (c) encourage law practices to support their lawyers to volunteer for pro bono work.

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

PLSS' Institute of Public Character ("IPC") status was extended for a period of 3 years with effect from 1 April 2016.

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 corporations, institutions and the government including:

Annual Pledges:

Allen & Gledhill LLP
 Allen & Overy LLP
 Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow
 Clifford Chance Pte Ltd
 Dentons, Rodyk & Davidson LLP
 Drew & Napier LLC
 Grace, Shua and Jacob Ballas Charitable Trust - UBS
 Linklaters Singapore Pte Ltd
 Providence Law Asia LLC
 Rajah and Tann LLP/ Community Foundation
 Straits Law Practice LLC
 Tan Kok Quan Partnership
 TSMP Law Corporation
 WongPartnership LLP

Donations/Grants:

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

In this financial year, donations were also received from:

- (a) Aldgate Chambers LLC
- (b) DBS Foundation
- (c) King & Spading LLP
- (d) National Youth Council
- (e) Quahe Woo and Palmer LLC
- (f) SBF Foundation
- (g) Tote Board
- (h) Withers KhattarWong

CLAS Fellowship Scheme

The CLAS Fellowship Scheme, in its second year, has been established as a high profile and extremely prestigious programme that gives junior lawyers the unique opportunity to work on CLAS cases full-time for a year. Recognising that pro bono work alone, with

all its best intentions, can only go so far in reducing the access to justice deficit, a number of law firms have generously sponsored the annual salaries of six lawyers who sit in the CLAS Office in the State Courts working full-time on the representation of CLAS applicants. This makes it possible to grant aid to far more applicants than would otherwise have been possible.

CLAS Fellowship Sponsors include:

- (a) Allen & Gledhill LLP
- (b) Dentons, Rodyk & Davidson LLP
- (c) Drew & Napier LLC
- (d) King & Spalding LLP
- (e) Providence Law Asia LLC
- (f) Quahe Woo and Palmer LLC
- (g) Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP
- (h) WongPartnership LLP
- (i) Aldgate Chambers LLC

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. Website: <http://probono.lawsociety.org.sg>

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
<p>Justice for All – Just Sing</p>  <p><i>Jimmy Ye and Rani Singam performing at Just Sing</i></p>	<p>Just Sing "Justice in the Groove!" was a highly anticipated privately ticketed fund raising concert held on 6 May 2016 which featured legal alumni who had left practice to pursue a career in the music industry such as Rani Singam and Jimmy Ye. Wang Renyi and Donovan Loh (of "Cheating Sons" who are also in-house counsel) and Chok Kerong (who went straight into music upon graduating from law school), were also featured in uniting both the legal fraternity and the community in promoting legal awareness and access to justice.</p> <p>The event was graced by the Minister for Law and Minister for Home Affairs Mr K Shanmugam as Guest of Honour.</p> <p>Just Sing "Justice in the Groove" raised over \$768,000. The funds raised will be channelled to the Pro Bono Services Office which administers all of the Law Society's pro bono programmes to help the most needy and marginalised in the community.</p>
<p>Law Awareness Week ("LAW") September 2016</p>	<p>LAW 2015 was a ground-breaking inaugural collaboration between the Law Society, Community Development Councils ("CDC") and community organisations to raise legal awareness amongst the community.</p> <p>LAW 2016 will be launched on 3 September 2016 at WaterWay Point. DPM Teo Chee Hean will be Guest of Honour. The total number of legal awareness talks for the public throughout Singapore is set to increase from 30 in 2015 to 70 in 2016, covering a wide range of legal topics including Employment Law, Consumer Protection Law and Advance Planning, topics curated by the CDCs. We expect attendance at these talks to exceed 4,000 from 1,200 in 2015.</p>

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 2015-31 March 2016). 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	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 [2,717 registrants, 2,043 attendees]
Civil Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on civil legal proceedings	1 x per week at the State Courts [196 registrants, 139 attendees]
Criminal Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on criminal legal proceedings	1 x per week at the State Courts 106 registrants, 76 attendees]
Criminal Legal Remand Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on criminal legal proceedings for persons in remand	By Referral from the State Courts [5 referrals, 3 attendees]
Family Legal Clinics	Specialist legal clinic advice on family legal proceedings	2 x per week at the State Courts [472 registrants, 376 attendees]
Law Works Clinics	Legal clinics focusing on employment legal issues	1 x month at the NTUC [108 registrants, 96 attendees]
Legal Representation for Individuals		
Programme	Need Met	Remarks
Ad Hoc Pro Bono Referral Scheme	Civil or Criminal Legal representation for exceptional cases not covered by formal legal aid schemes	By referral from social welfare organisations, lawyers, members of parliament or government agencies only. [94 applications, 38 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		
Programme	Need Met	Remarks
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 donation of Portcullis Trust (Singapore) Ltd	Free download from PBSO website. English version: http://probono.lawsociety.org.sg/Pages/know-the-law-booklet.aspx

General Legal Awareness for Community Organisations		
Community Organisations	This section of the Pro Bono Services Office website is a project by the Law Society to provide legal information for community organisations (charities, non-profit organisations and social enterprises). 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 Community Organisations (made possible with donations from DBS Foundation, SBF Foundation and Withers KhattarWong LLP)	<p>LEGALESE is a publication which aims to provide bite-sized pieces of information to the general public on the various legal aspects of setting up and running a social enterprise or non-profit entity.</p> <p>Published in December 2013, the first edition of Legalese focused solely on social enterprises. In this second edition of Legalese, the scope of the toolkit was expanded to support not only social enterprises but also non-profit organisations.</p> <p>The revised Legalese was launched on 1 July 2016. A panel discussion on crowdfunding held on the same day was oversubscribed and attended by over 70 representatives from community organisations. In view of the overwhelming response (more than 50 representatives were placed on the waiting list), the PLH Committee intends to hold follow up talks in the coming months.</p>	<p>The LEGALESE toolkit can be downloaded for free from PBSO website</p> <p>http://probono.lawsociety.org.sg/Pages/LegaleSE.aspx</p>
Legal Assistance for Community Organisations		
Online Guide for Non Profit Organisations	General legal advice for community organisations	<p>Held at a time that matches Applicant and volunteer lawyers @ PBSO offices</p> <p>Between 1 August 2015 to 18 July 2016:</p> <p>Number of enquiries: 44</p> <p>Number of registrations: 27</p>
Project Law Help	Match-up service for local community organisations undertaking community work within Singapore and law firms to provide pro bono corporate legal assistance	<p>Assignment of volunteer law practice upon successful application</p> <p>Between 1 August 2015 to 18 July 2016:</p> <p>Number of applications: 15</p> <p>Number of successful match-ups: 13</p>
Joint International Pro Bono Committee	Match-up service for international community organisations based in Singapore (undertaking community work outside of Singapore) and law firms to provide pro bono corporate legal assistance.	Assignment of volunteer law practice upon successful application

Volunteer Support		
Ad Hoc Pro Bono Assessment Scheme	Assists practitioners who are planning to do ad hoc pro bono work for needy persons by conducting an assessment of the prospective client's suitability for pro bono assistance.	Upon request
Mentor/Specialist Resource Guidance	Matching of junior pro bono lawyers with a mentor/practice specialist to provide practice guidance.	Upon request
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. http://probono.lawsociety.org.sg/Pages/Volunteer-Schemes.aspx
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. http://probono.lawsociety.org.sg/Pages/Volunteer-Schemes.aspx
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



◀ Launch of Legalese

Special / Ad Hoc Projects

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

Programme	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. With funding from NCSS and the Tote Board, PBSO launched the pilot phase on 1 January 2015 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 so that they can enjoy fair access to justice.	The AA Service pilot phase was completed on 31 Dec 2015 with the successful deployment to all 6 police land divisions, 208 volunteers trained, and 100% successful activation record achieved for all 73 requests for 2015. From 1 January 2016, MINDS (Movement for the Intellectually Disabled of Singapore) has been appointed by the National Council of Social Service ("NCSS") to take over the administration of AA Service from the Law Society.
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 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:

Programme	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	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).	PBSO provides fortnightly clinics.
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 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
Ooogachaga	5 September 2015	Protection from Harassment Act
German European School	8 September 2015	Talk on Gambling and Alcohol Abuse
LawWorks	29 September 2015	Law Works Legal Primer 3 of 2015 - PDPA
West Coast CC	3 October 2015	Consumer Protection Law
German European School	6 October 2015	Ramifications of Illegal Substance Abuse in Singapore
National University of Singapore	8 October 2015	Medical Ethics for NUS Nursing Masters Students
Signature Park Condo Function Room	10 October 2015	Advance Planning
Tan Tock Seng Hospital	10 October 2015	Wills and LPA
Hillview Condominium Showroom	11 October 2015	Residents in a Condominium: Your Rights and Responsibilities, Mediation of Neighbourly Conflicts, and Introduction to the Strata Titles Board
Ang Mo Kio Chinese Methodist Church	24 October 2015	Wills (Mandarin)
Jurong Green CC	25 October 2015	Family Law
NTUC Centre - 1 Marina Boulevard	6 November 2015	Law Works Appreciation Dinner
Down Syndrome Association		
Junction 8 Office Tower	7 November 2015	Criminal Law and How it Affects People with Special Needs
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	9 November 2015	Legal Implications in the Nursing Profession
LawWorks	3 December 2015	Law Works Legal Primer 4 of 2015 - Workplace Harassment
Bethel Presbyterian Church	12 December 2015	Understanding Wills and Estate Planning
Bukit Batok East CC	27 December 2015	Wills and Testacy Issues
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	19 January 2016	The Law and Nursing
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	25 January 2016	Ngee Ann Poly Law Bonanza - Legal Issues in Doing Online/M-business
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	25 January 2016	Ngee Ann Poly Law Bonanza – Family Law
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	27 January 2016	Ngee Ann Poly Law Bonanza – Intellectual Property Law
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	27 January 2016	Ngee Ann Poly Law Bonanza - Internet / Social Media Responsibility
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	29 January 2016	Ngee Ann Poly Law Bonanza - Youth Offenders in the Media Spotlight
Ngee Ann Polytechnic	29 January 2016	Ngee Ann Poly Law Bonanza - Criminal Justice System in Singapore
Victoria JC	1 February 2016	Criminal Justice System in Singapore
APSN Delta Senior School	5 March 2016	Workplace Harassment to Persons with Intellectual Disability
Christian Outreach to the Handicapped	12 March 2016	LPA and Appointment of Deputies

Organisation	Date	Outreach
LawWorks	31 March 2016	Law Works Legal Primer 1 of 2016 - Workplace Bullying
Millennia Institute	1 April 2016	Copyright and Plagiarism on the Internet
Bukit Batok Presbyterian Church	27 April 2016	Wills and LPAs
Jurong Junior College	11 May 2016	Women's Legal Rights
Anglican High School	20 May 2016	Career Day Talk - The Legal Career
LawWorks	24 May 2016	Law Works Legal Primer 2 of 2016 - IP Rights and Patents for the Creative Industry
Ngee Ann Polytechnic - School of Nursing	24 May 2016	Legal Implications on the Nursing Career
Singapore Sports and Orthopedic Clinic	3 June 2016	Understanding Foreign Workers Rights and WICA
Tan Tock Seng Hospital	4 Jun 2016	Wills and LPAs
Kampong Glam CC	4 Jun 2016	Wills and LPAs
Grace Orchard School	28 Jun 2016	Singapore Law and Youths
National Council of Social Service	1 July 2016	Integrated ElderCare Network - MCA and LPA
Bethel Presbyterian Church	2 July 2016	Wills and LPAs
Agape Christian Centre	5 July 2016	Wills and LPAs
Lion Befrienders - Ghim Moh Centre (NUS Golden Years Project)	18 July 2016	Wills and LPAs
Lion Befrienders - Bendemeer Centre (NUS Golden Years Project)	21 July 2016	Wills and LPAs
Lion Befrienders - Clementi Centre (NUS Golden Years Project)	22 July 2016	Wills and LPAs
NCSS - Social Service Institute	22 July 2016	PDPA
NCSS	18 August 2016	Laws Protecting Children/Persons with Disabilities
Woodlands CC	20 August 2016	LAW2016 Fringe Event - Consumer Protection Law
Nanyang CC	20 August 2016	LAW2016 Fringe Event - Advance Planning
Changi Simei CC	27 August 2016	LAW2016 Fringe Event - Community Dispute Resolution / Alternative Dispute Resolution
Bukit Batok East RC	27 August 2016	LAW2016 Fringe Event - Cyber Bullying

Other Events

Date	Event
23 January 2016	Project Schools Teacher Training workshop 1
27 January 2016	Workshop on Human Trafficking by Hagar International to lawyers
29 January 2016	Launch of Singapore In-House Counsel Pro Bono Guide
19 March 2016	Workshop for Human Trafficking victims with Hagar International Singapore
29 March 2016	Workshop on The Employment Landscape in Singapore by Patrick Tay, Asst Sec Gen of NTUC @ State Courts Bar Room for volunteer lawyers
31 March 2016	LawWorks Legal Primer + Launch of Workplace Bullying booklet
18 May 2016	Project Schools Teacher Training workshop 2
20 May 2016	Conferred NTUC May Day Model Partnership Award
24 May 2016	LawWorks Legal Primer on IP Law and Patents
25 June 2016	Joint workshop with Justice Without Borders on Employing Legal Solutions for International Migrant workers: A Legal Education Workshop on Cross-Border Civil Litigation
11 August 2016	Workshop on assistance available to victims of addiction issues by WeCare Community Services for volunteer lawyers
22 August 2016	Industrial Visit by MOE Schools to Law Society and tour of Supreme Court
26 August 2016	Industrial Visit by MOE Schools to Law Society and tour of State Courts

Media

Media coverage in the past year included:

- A 10-article series by Lianhe Wanbao featuring inspirational lawyers who do pro bono work;
- Channel NewsAsia story on Project Schools, both in the form of broadcast and online article;
- Exclusive online story by Yahoo! on workplace bullying, part of the LawWorks collaboration between NTUC and the Law Society;
- Story on an AHPBS case concerning the citizenship status of a triplet in four different local newspapers;
- Feature of Just Sing in The Straits Times; and
- Report on CLAS in various media outlets.

Annual Pro Bono Hours Survey of Practising Lawyers

New practice rules were 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). The data is captured by the Supreme Court in the application by solicitors for a practising certificate.

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	<p>Mrs Arfat Selvam, Advocate and Solicitor, (Chairperson, w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008)</p> <p>Mr George Lim, SC, Advocate and Solicitor (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008)</p> <p>Mr N Sreenivasan, SC, Advocate and Solicitor (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008)</p> <p>Ms Malathi Das, Advocate and Solicitor (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2008)</p> <p>Mr Kelvin Wong, Advocate and Solicitor (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2012)</p> <p>Mr Gregory Vijayendran, Advocate and Solicitor (w.e.f. 1 Jan 2013)</p> <p>Ms Kuah Boon Theng, Advocate and Solicitor (from 1 Jan 2015 to 31 Dec 2015 member and Treasurer)</p> <p>Mr Adrian Tan, Advocate and Solicitor (w.e.f. 1 January 2016, member and Treasurer)</p>
Key Position Holder	Lim Tanguy Yuteck, Director of Pro Bono Services (w.e.f. 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> <p>(1) Mr Gregory Vijayendran (Vice-President, LSS Council)</p> <p>(2) Mr Adrian Tan (Treasurer, LSS Council)</p> <p>(3) Mr Kelvin Wong (LSS Council)</p>
Principal Funding Sources of the Charity	<p>Law Society of Singapore's General Fund</p> <p>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.
Conflict of Interest Policy	The Charity has documented procedures for Board members to declare actual or potential conflicts of interest to the Board at the earliest opportunity. In particular members of the Management Committee sign a conflict of interest policy declaration form upon appointment to the Committee and a conflict of interest disclosure statement in the event of a conflict. In the event that a conflict of interest situation arises there are procedures for the abstention from discussion and decision-making on the matter by the member concerned.

Community Legal Clinics

Chuah Yeow Hooi Cyril, Chairperson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chuah Yeow Hooi Cyril

CHAIRPERSON

Lam Kuet Keng Steven John

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Arvindran s/o Manoosegaran

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Cheah Saing Chong

Chen Cuiying Janelene

Gavin Ng Ren Zhang

Hany Soh Hui Bin

Hewage Ushan Saminda Premaratne

Huang Helen Yao

Koh Li Qun Kelvin

Kuah Boon Theng

Lee Terk Yang

Lee Yiling Alison

Mahadevan Lukshumayeh

Mark Tan Teik Yu

Mifiona Quah

Montague Choy

Rey Foo Jong Han

Sean La'Brooy

Tan Wei Ming

Tay Li Yan

Tng Soon Chye

Wong Soo Chih

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.

1. Clinic Expansion

Since the Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") between the Mayor's Committee and the Law Society of Singapore was signed on 12 September 2014, legal clinics have been held every night from Mondays to Thursdays (excluding the eve and public holidays) at the North West, South East, Central Singapore and South West Community Development Councils ("CDCs").

From April 2015 to March 2016, we received 2,717 registrations, of which 2,043 attended the clinics. During the same period, we also saw a 10.2% increase in the number of lawyers (i.e. 180) volunteering at our clinics.

Besides the CDC clinics administered by the Law Society, there are over 50 "satellite" clinics held at CCs/Community Clubs around the island. To date, 10 of these clinics have joined our network and benefited from insurance coverage for their volunteer lawyers, shared resources and access to a wide pool of volunteers, amongst other benefits.

The Committee will continue to reach out to other clinics to inform them of the perks and bring them into the network.

2. Volunteer Clinic Manager Training Programme

The Committee piloted the Volunteer Clinic Manager Training Programme, which aims to train volunteers, including law students, foreign qualified lawyers and in house counsel, as Clinic Managers to assist with administrative and operational duties at the legal clinics.

Due to the sensitive and confidential nature of the information accessible by the Clinic Managers, the volunteers are carefully selected and usually have some legal background or experience dealing with such information (e.g. law firm support staff). Often, these are volunteers who are not qualified to give legal advice but are interested to help out at the clinics. Once the volunteers have received the necessary training, they can also be deployed to help out at Network Clinics, if required.

3. Pro Bono Services Office ("PBSO") Monthly Newsletter

Through the PBSO monthly newsletter, the Committee provides clinic volunteers with information about new initiatives and/or new legislations to keep them up to date on the latest developments. In addition, the Committee also helps with resource needs of Network Clinics by recruiting volunteer lawyers for specific clinics via the newsletter.

4. Specialised Legal Clinics

The Committee also collaborates with numerous specialised organisations to provide targeted advice to specific segments of the community that frequently encounter legal issues. Through these collaborations, we have been able to reach out to marginalized populations, such as foreign workers, sex workers and victims of sexual abuse.

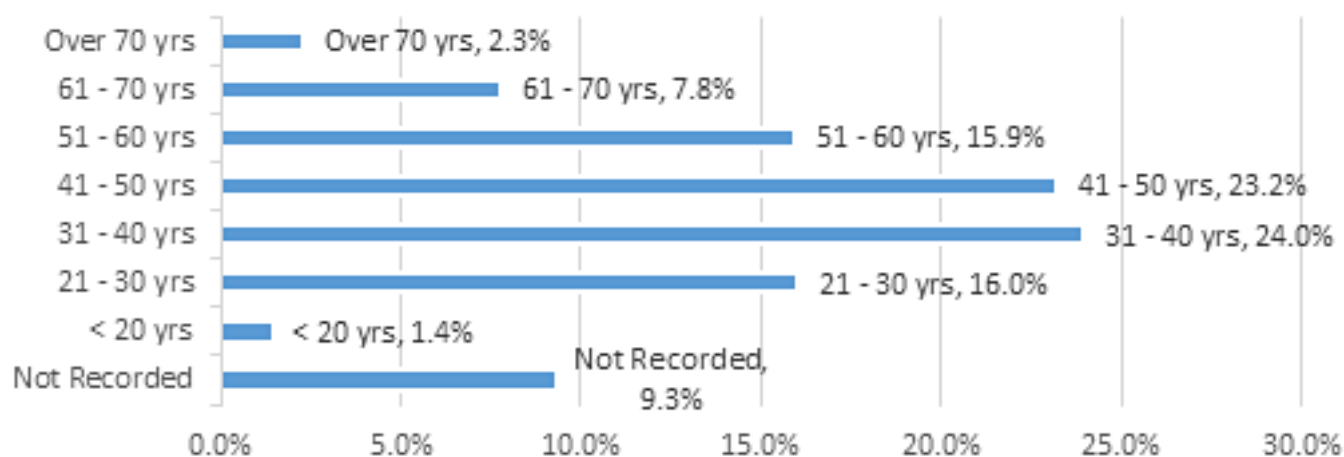
We will continue to support new initiatives where there is a real need that cannot be met by the existing network of clinics. Conversations are also ongoing with voluntary welfare organisations assisting with human trafficking victims, those suffering from various addiction issues as well as the creative industries sector.



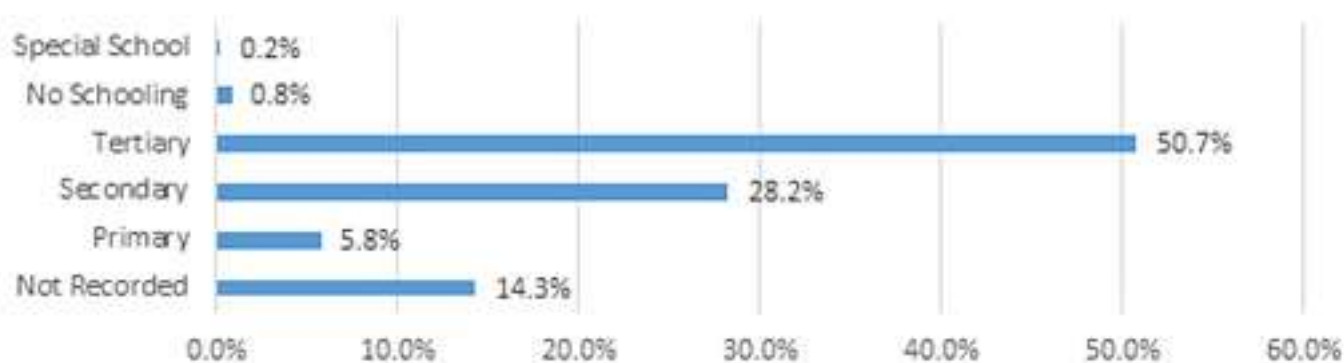
PBSO Monthly Newsletter

Appendix A: Charts on Profile of Applicants

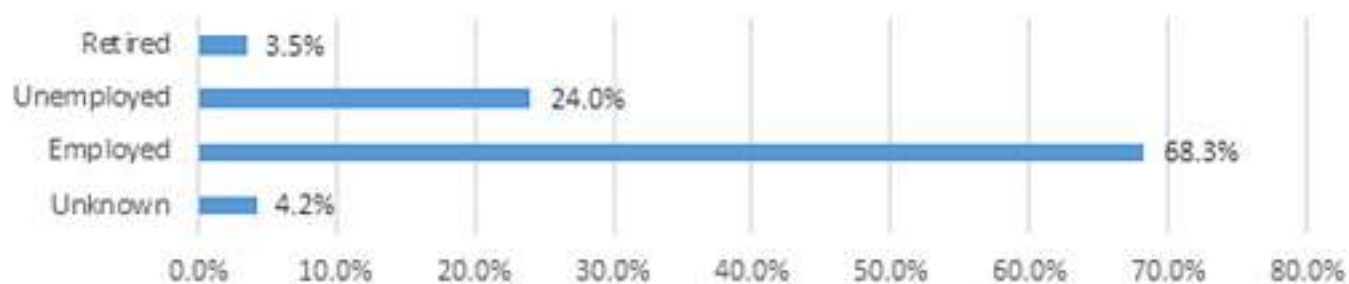
Age Group



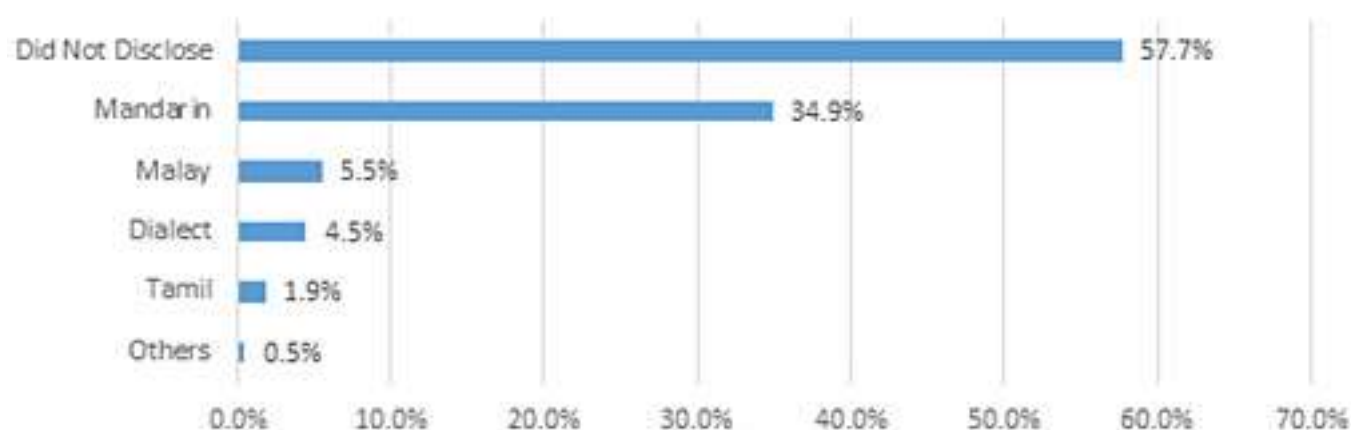
Education



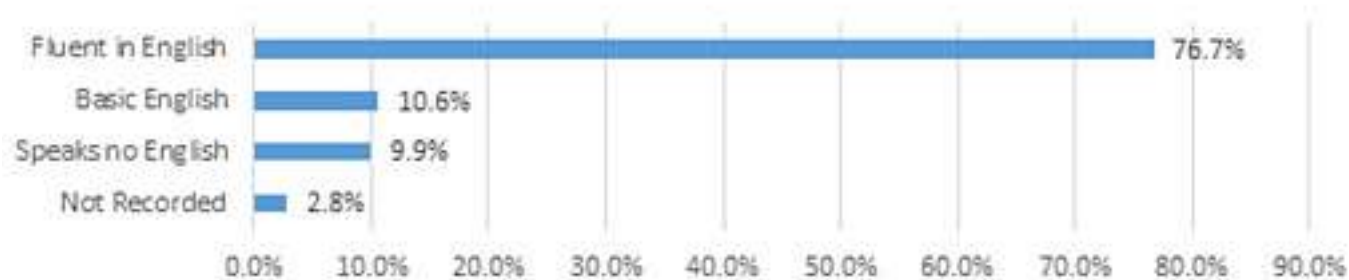
Employment Status



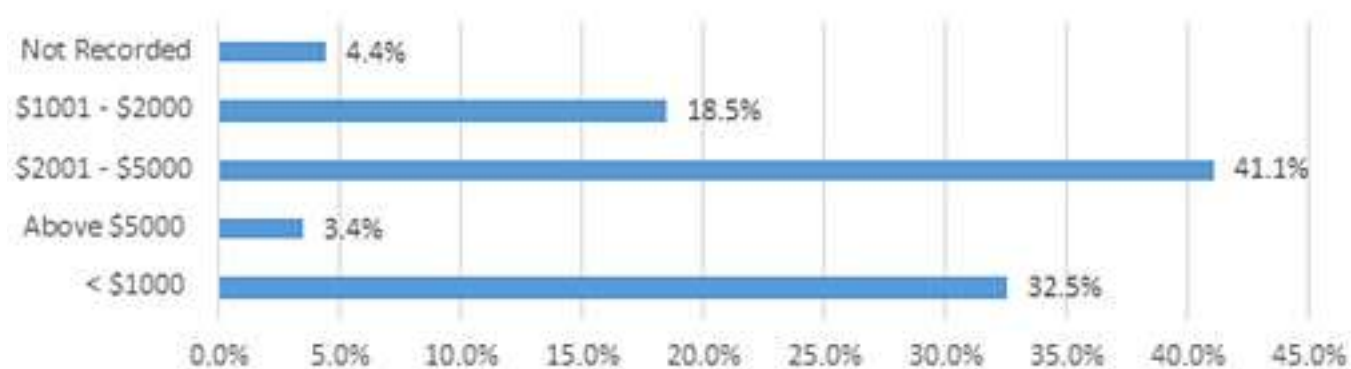
Languages Spoken Apart from English



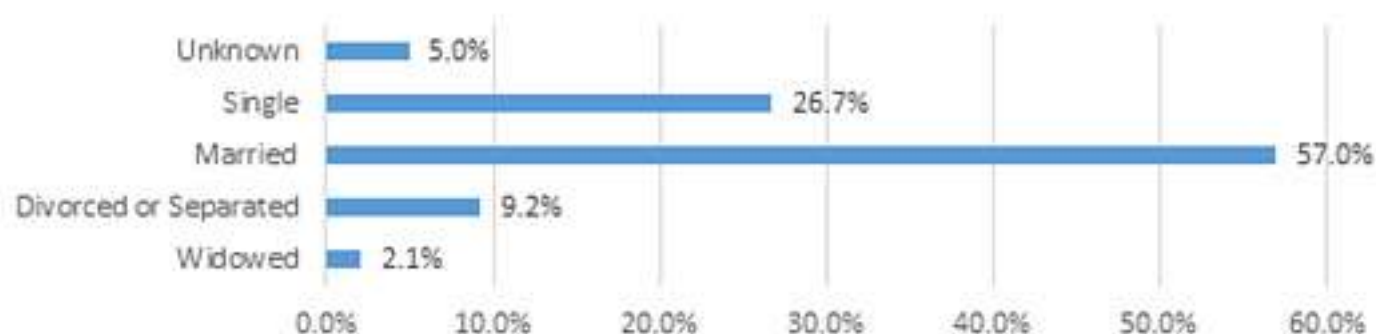
English Proficiency



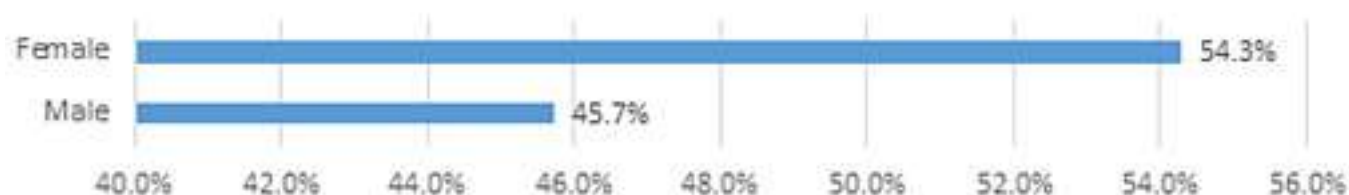
Monthly Salary



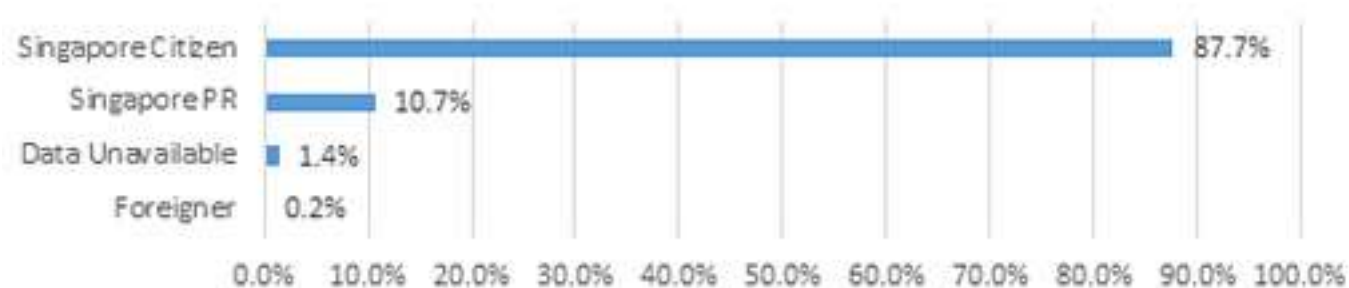
Marital Status



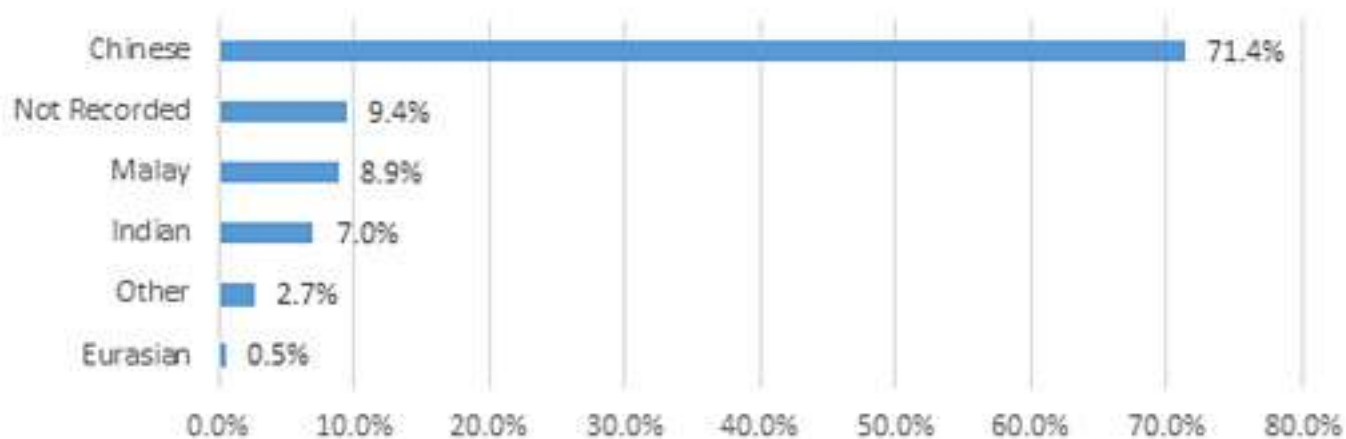
Gender



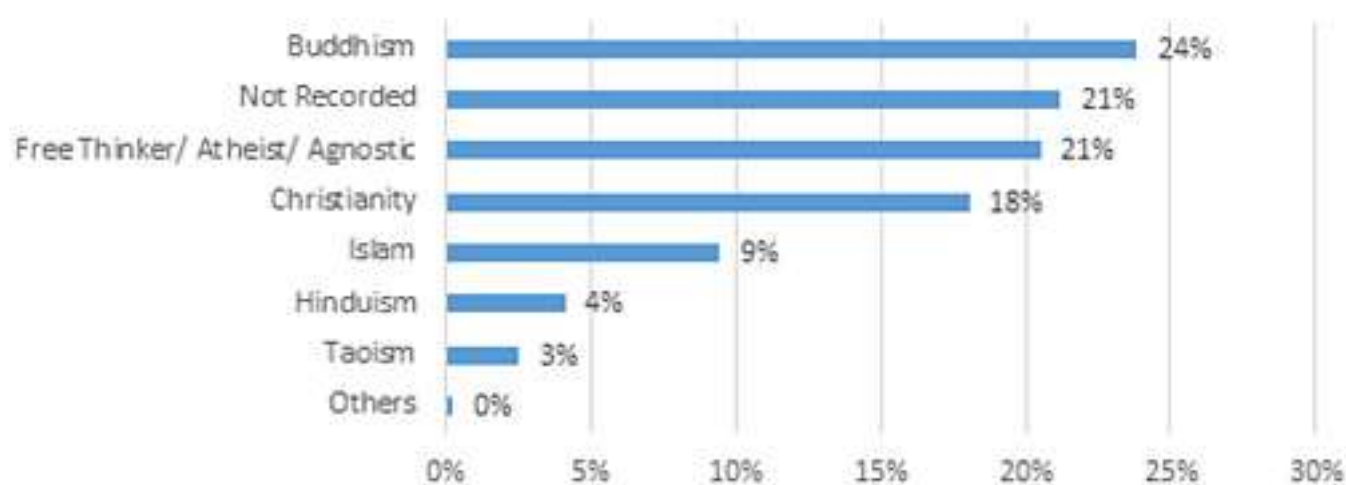
Residential Status



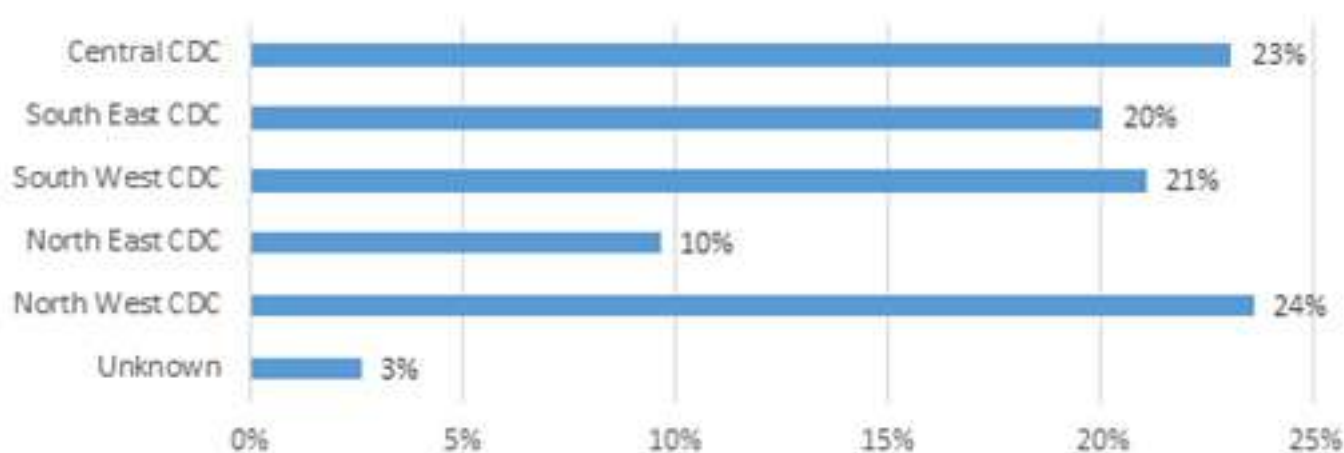
Ethnicity



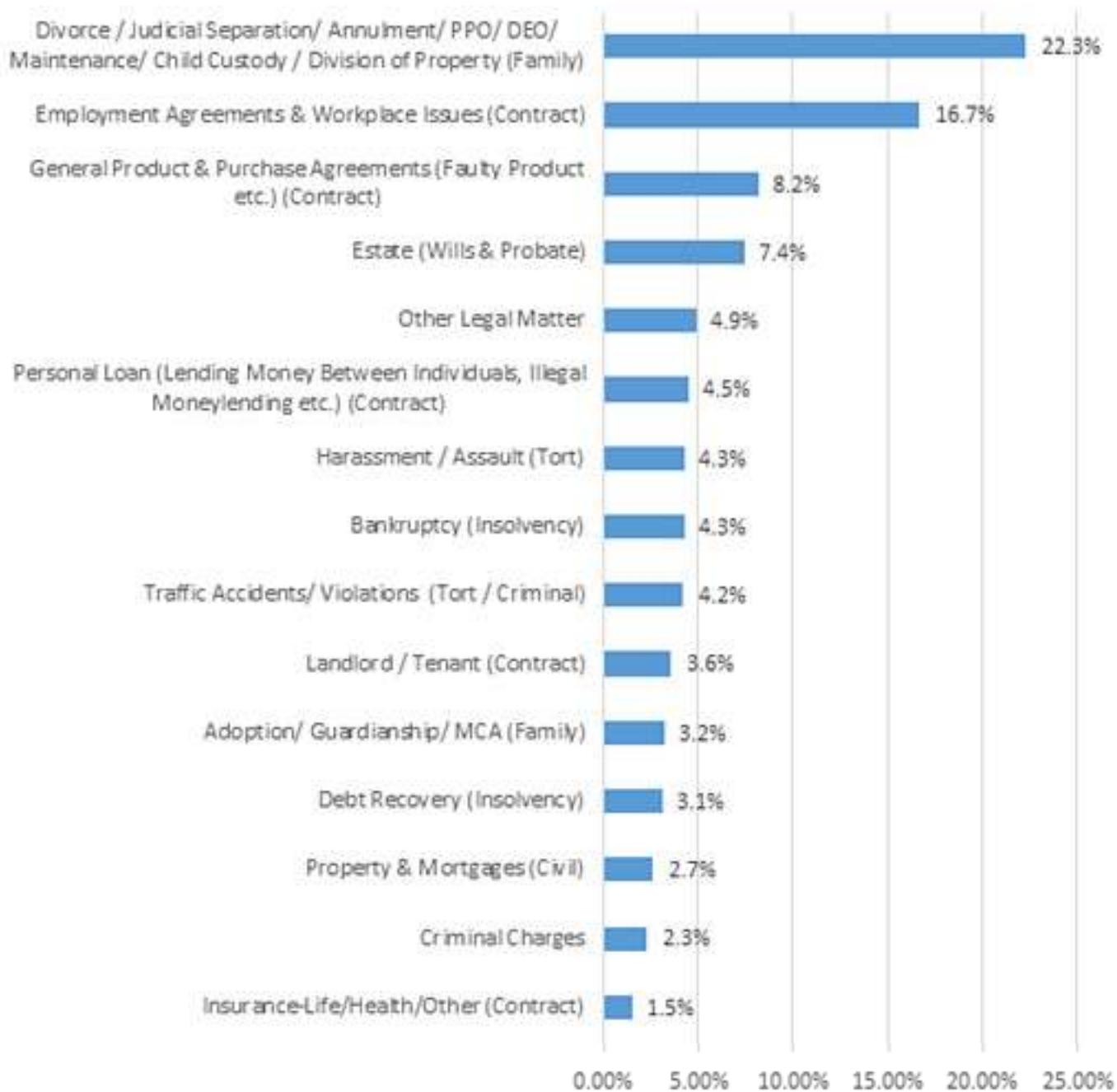
Religion



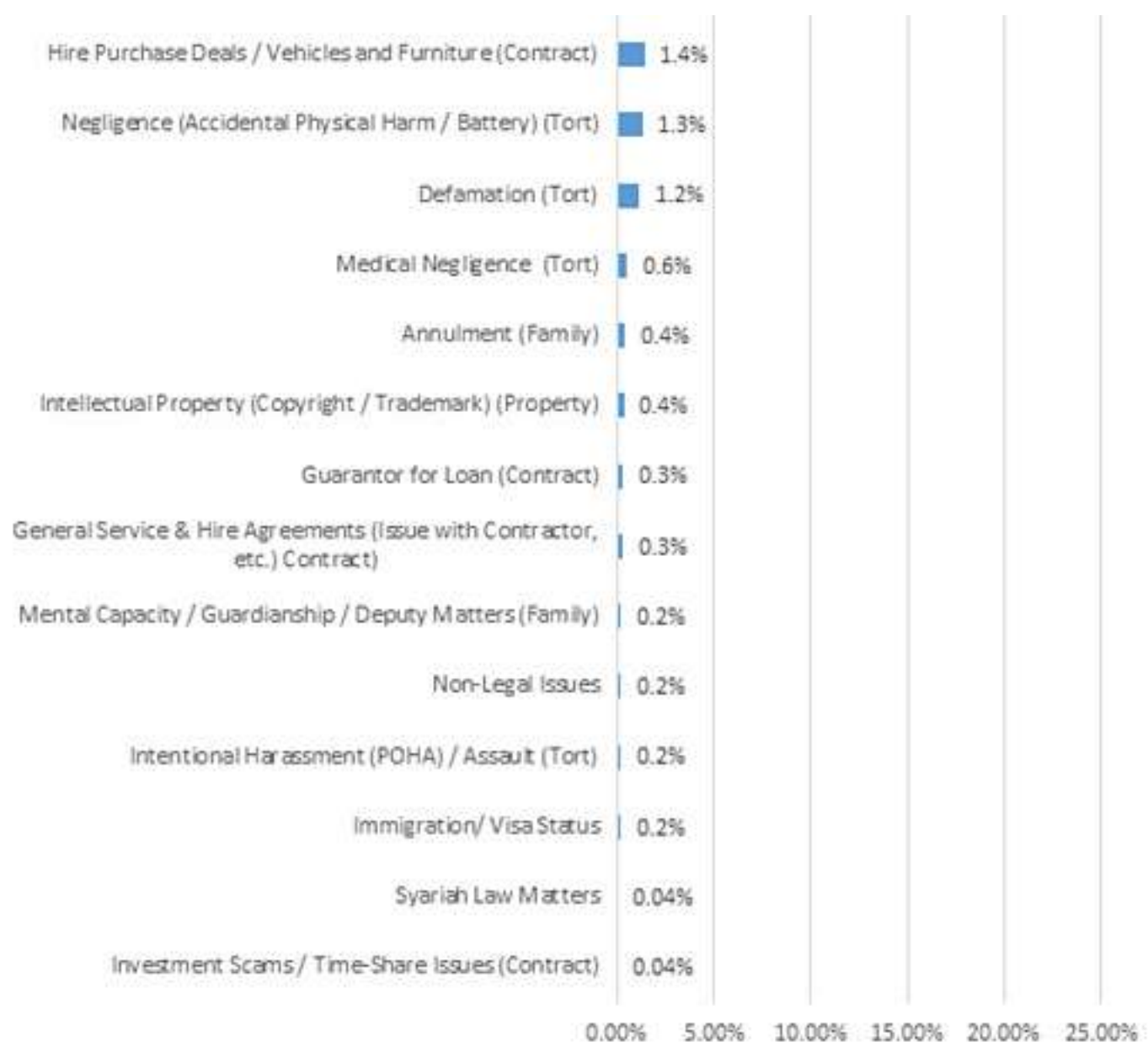
Applicant CDC



Case Type



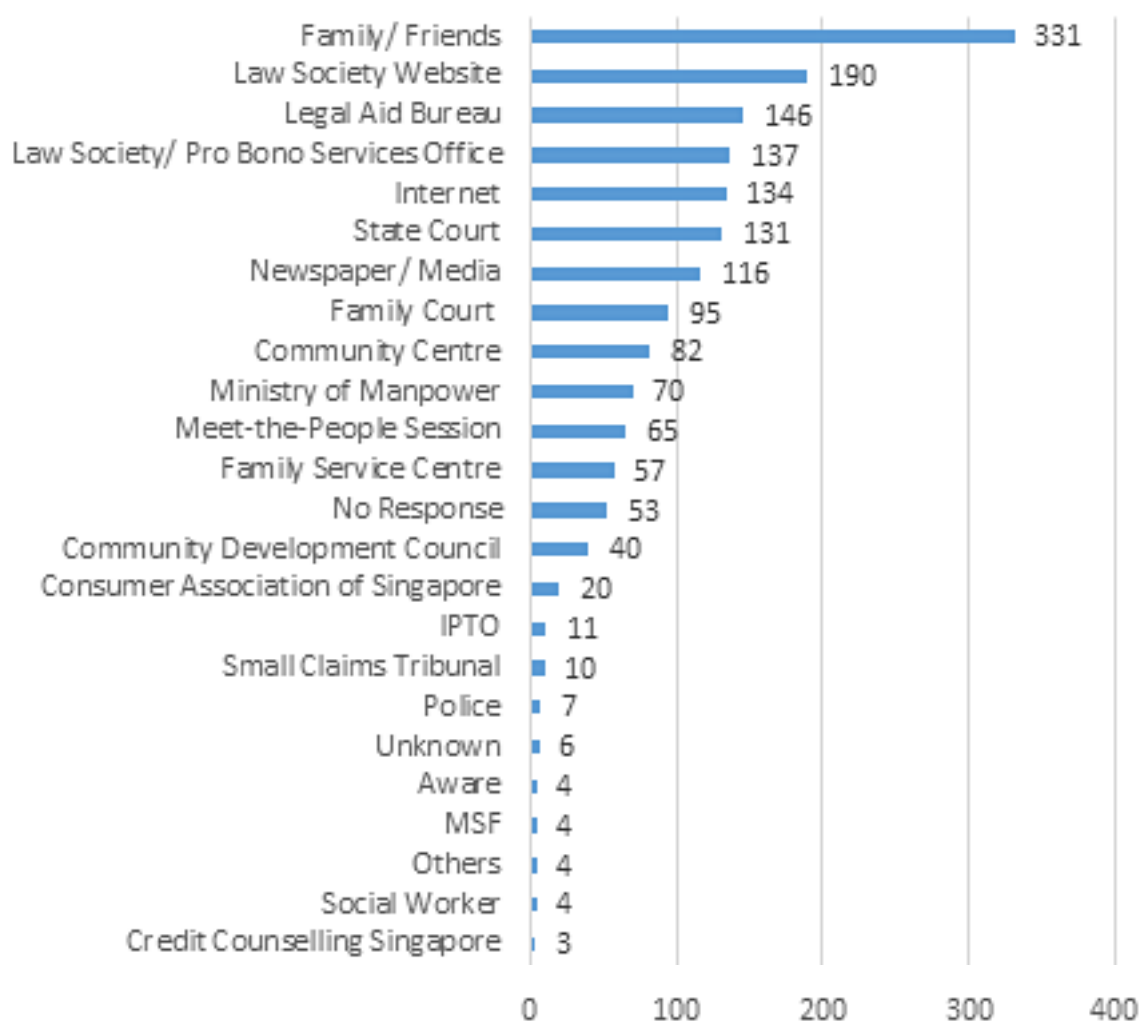
Case Type (Continued)



Appendix B: Community Legal Clinic Satisfaction Survey Results

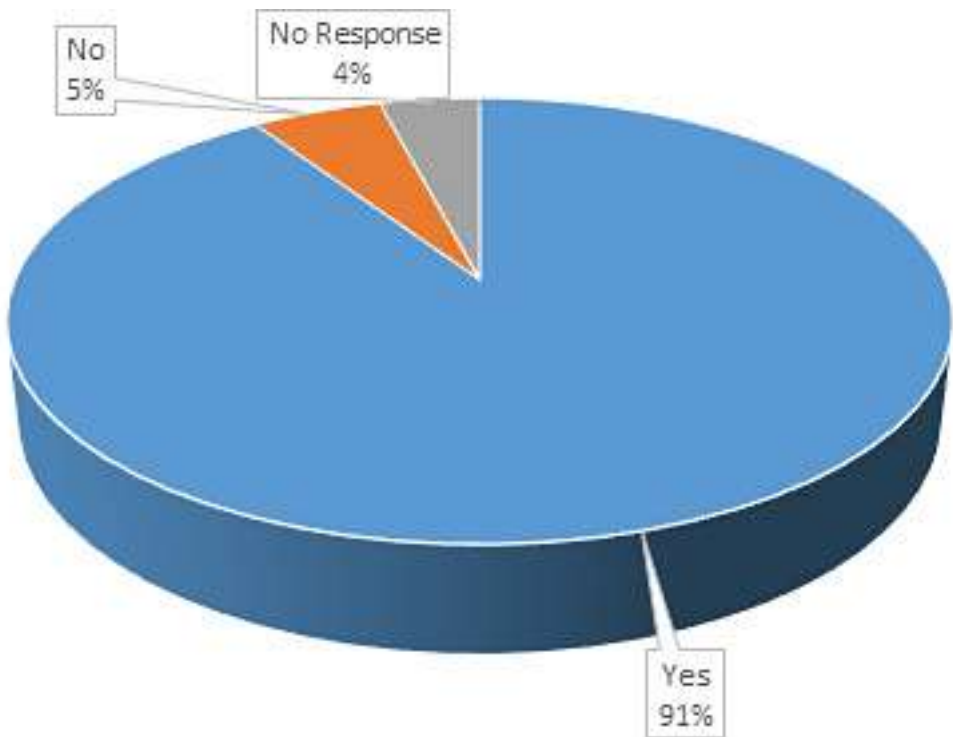
Data collected was from a sample size of 1,749 attendees at our Community Legal Clinics during the reporting period April 2015–March 2016.

From Where Did You Hear About the Community Legal Clinic?

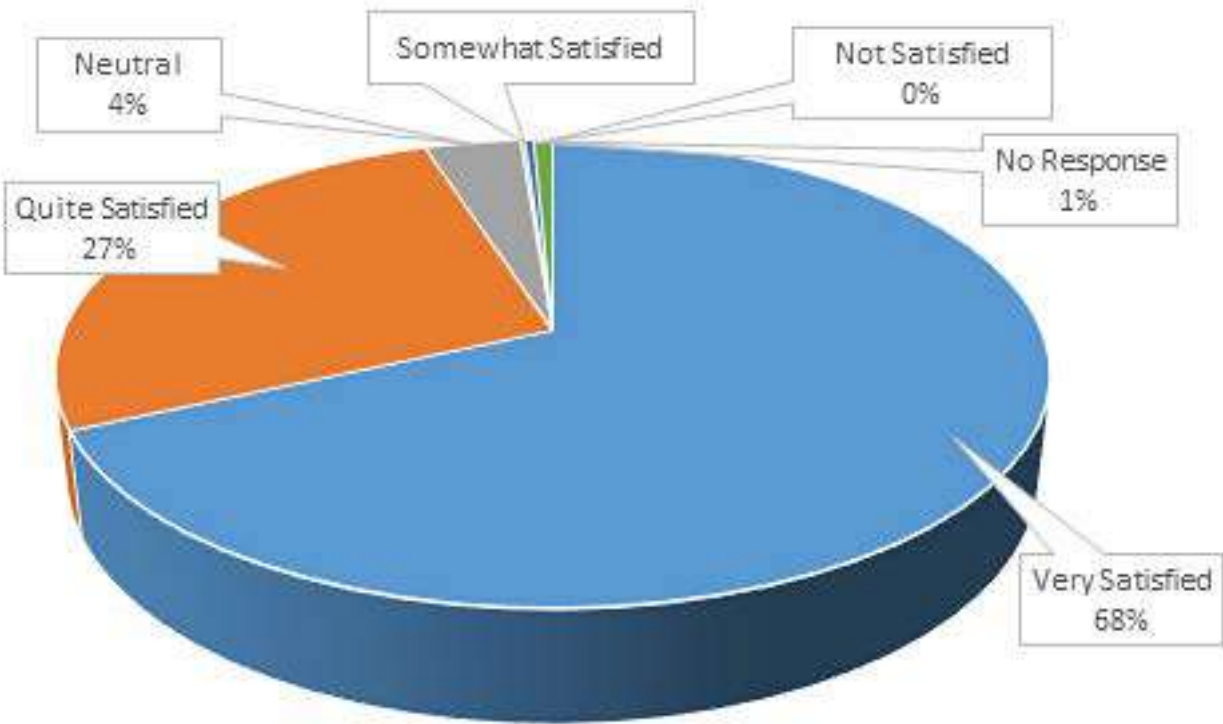




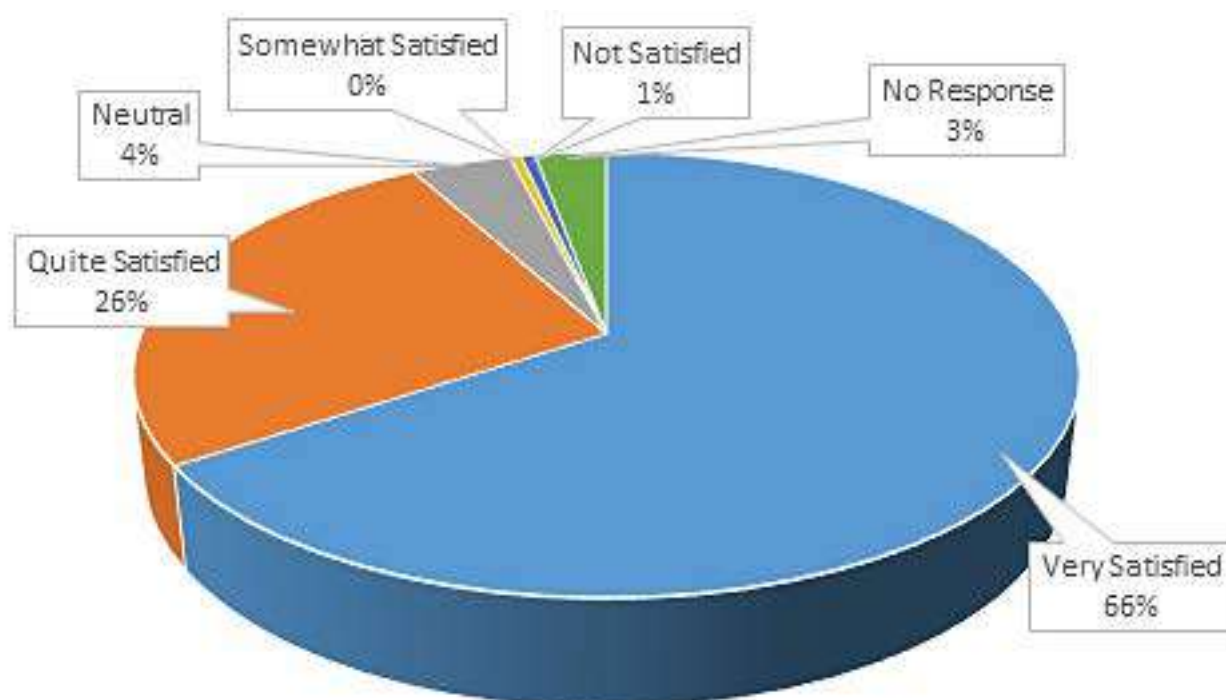
Is This Your First Time to the Community Legal Clinic?



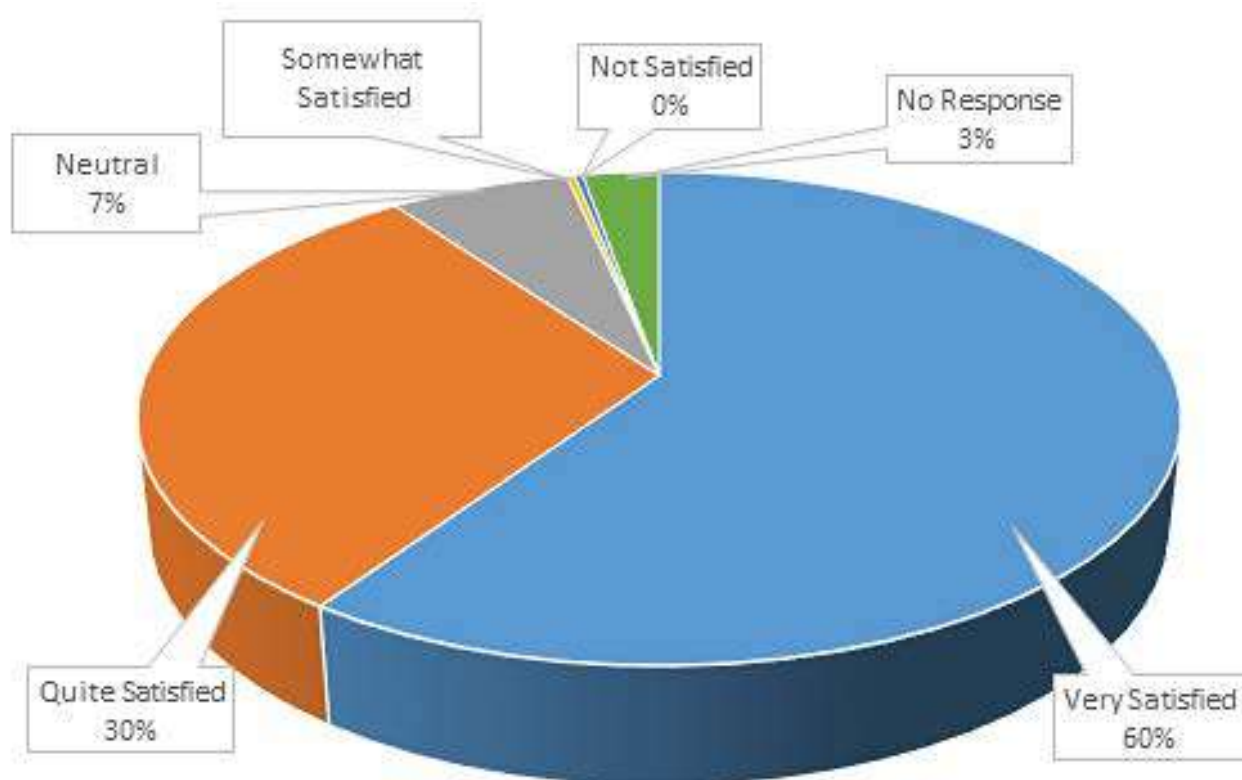
How Satisfied were You with:
i. Friendliness of Legal Clinic Staff



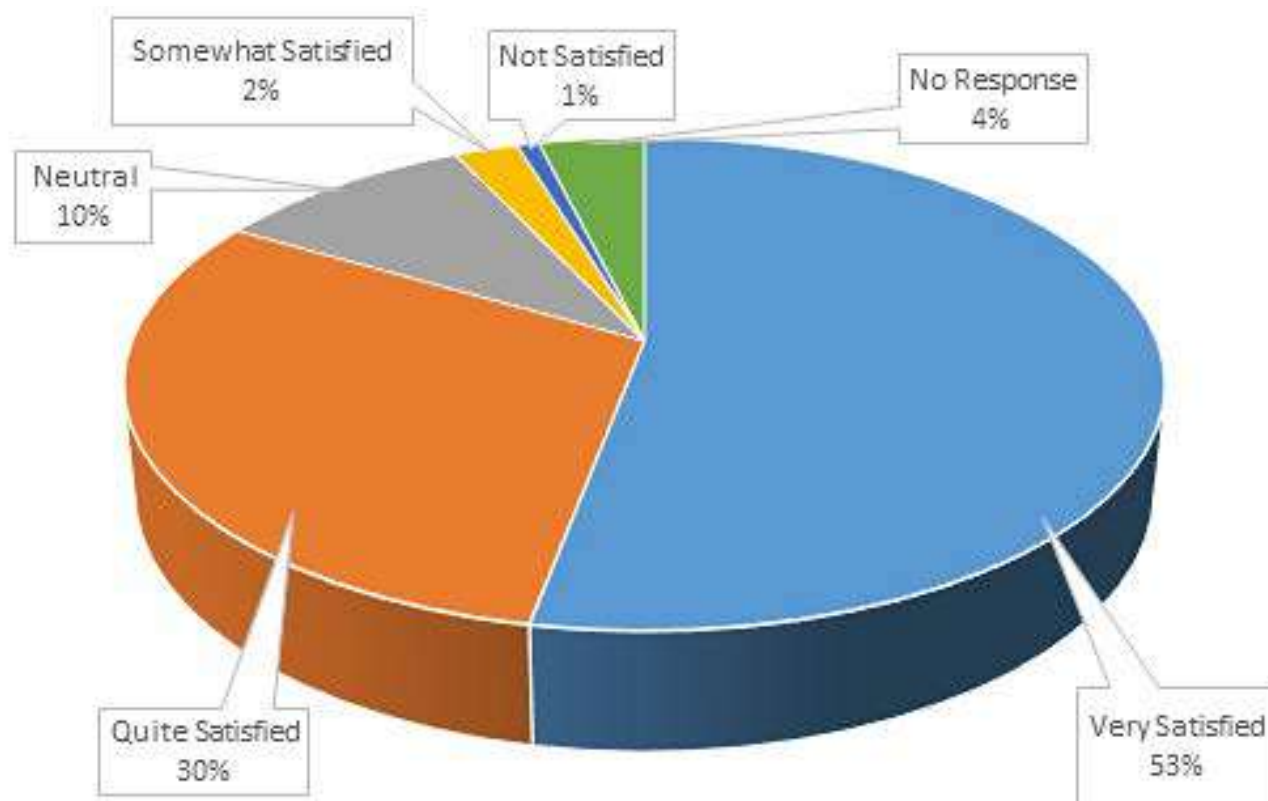
ii. Efficiency of Legal Clinic Staff



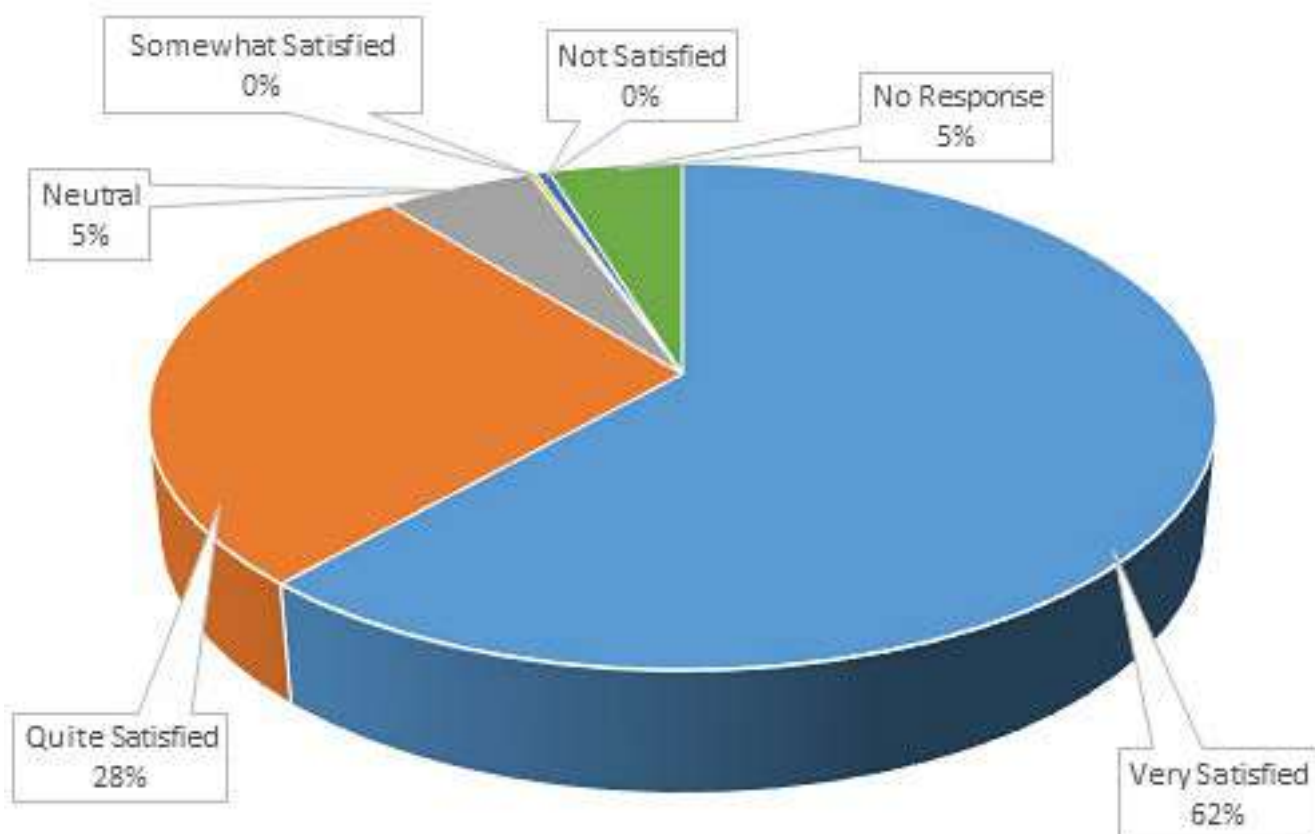
iii. Operating Hours



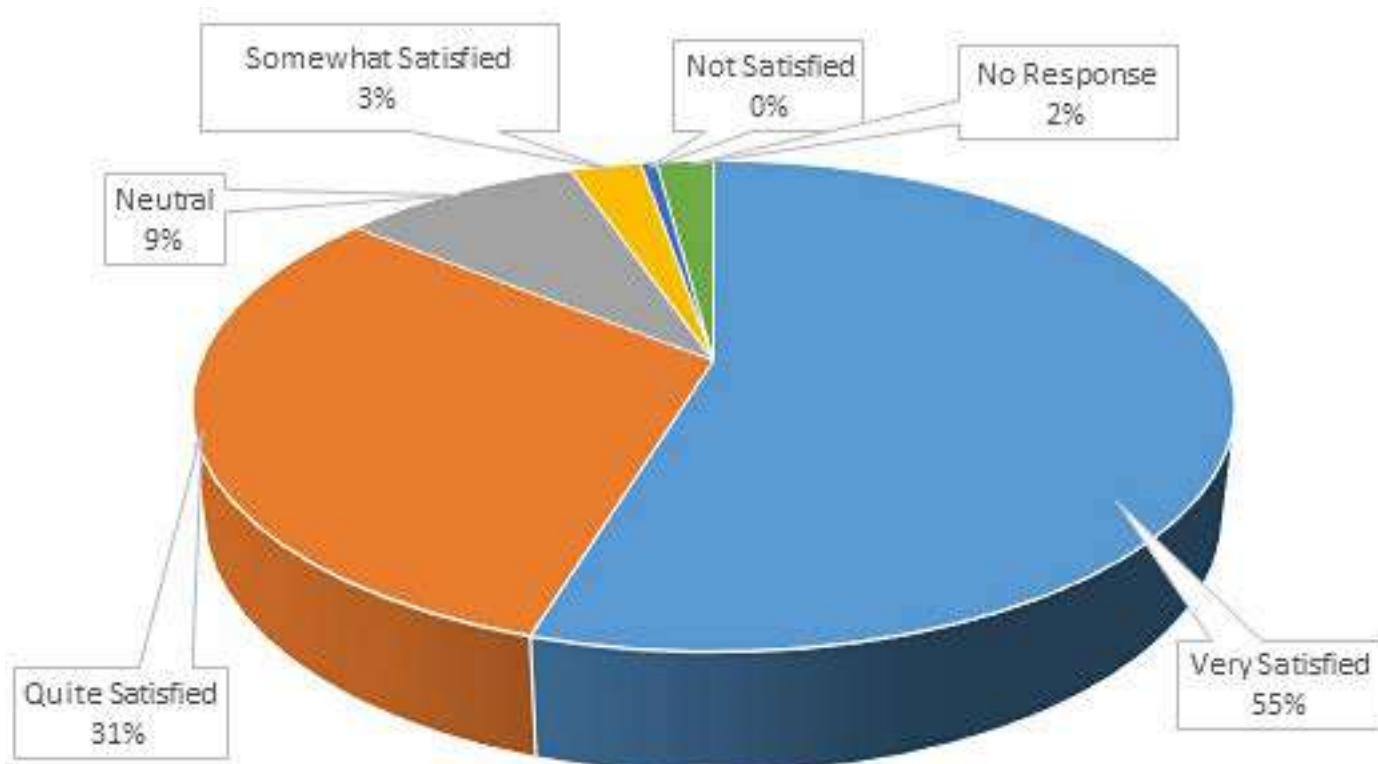
iv. Ease of Finding Venue



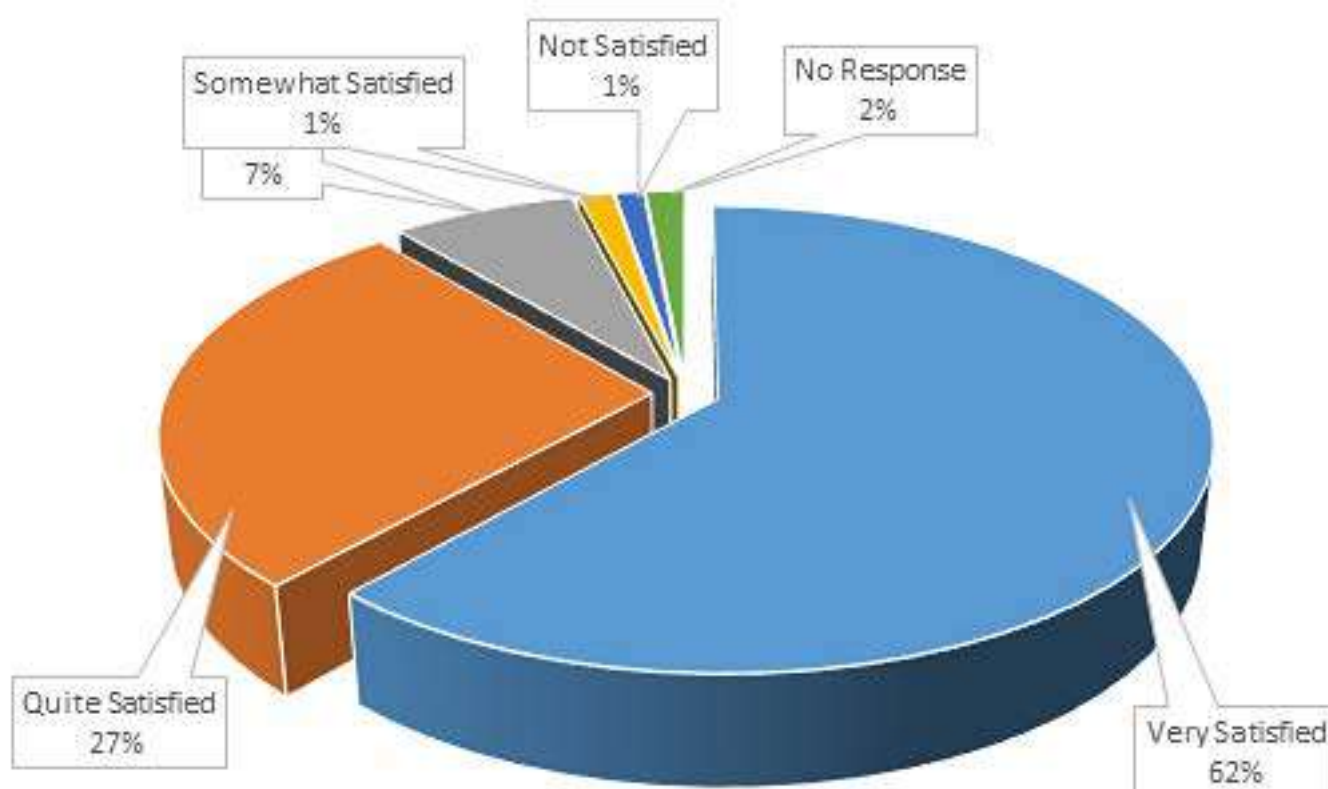
v. Consultation Room



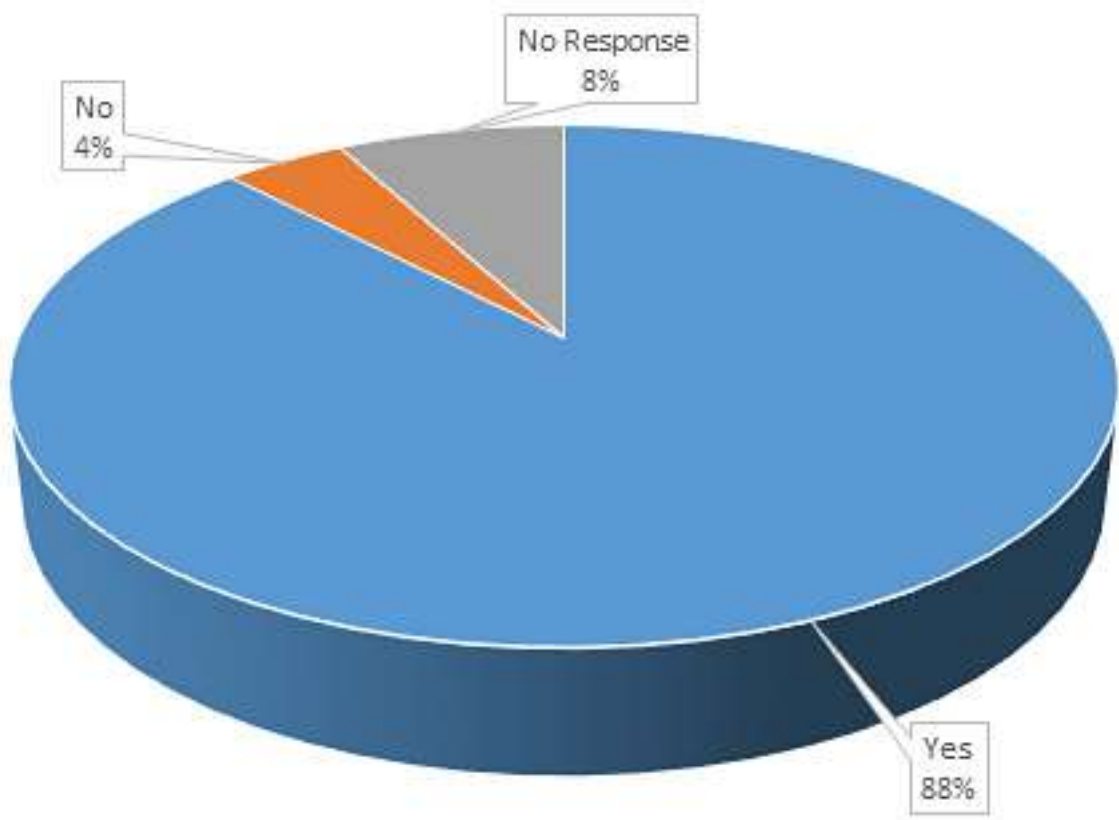
vi. Length of Session with Lawyer



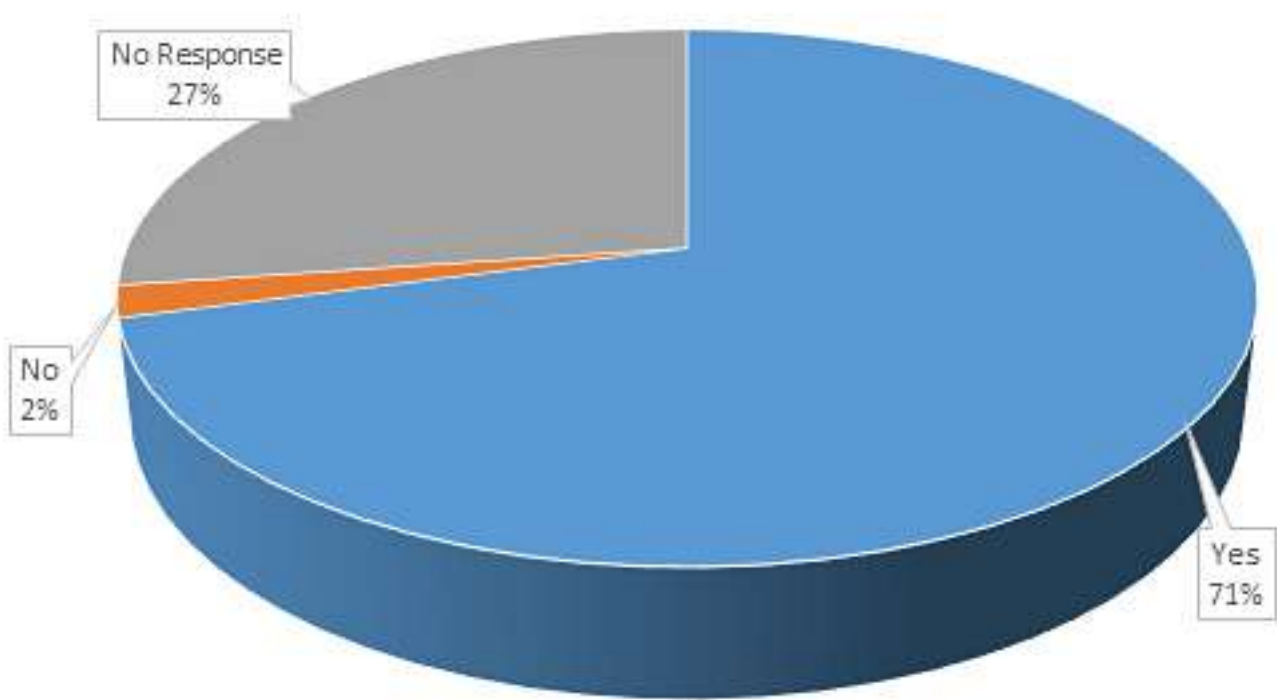
vii. Helpfulness of Advice



Will You Return to Our Clinic if You have New Legal Issues?



Will You Recommend Our Community Legal Clinic to Others Who Need Legal Advice?



Criminal Legal Aid Scheme

Derek Kang Yu Hsien, Chairperson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Derek Kang Yu Hsien

CHAIRPERSON

Anand Nalachandran

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Chan Cong Yen Lionel (Chen Congren)
 Cheah Saing Chong
 Cheong Jun Ming Mervyn (until 15 July 2016)
 Dennis Chua Soon Chai
 Dierdre Grace Morgan
 Hany Soh Hui Bin
 Josephus Tan Joon Liang
 Lim Pei Ling June
 Mahesh Rai
 Suresh s/o Damodara
 Tan Chor Hoon Alice
 Tan Li-Chern Terence
 Tan May Lian Felicia

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Lim Tanguy
 Gopinath Pillai
 Eoin Ó Muimhneacháin

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

From 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, a total of 2,361 applications for aid were received under CLAS. Aid was granted for the said period for a total of 1,777 applications. The number of cases processed during this period was 23.4% higher than the preceding 12-month period up to 31 August 2015.

Annual Report Year	Cases Processed	Aid Granted	Percentage of Cases Aid was Granted Against Number of Applications
2016	2,361	1,777	75%
2015	1,913	1,018	53%

2. Volunteers

287 CLAS volunteer lawyers had taken up at least 1 case in the 12-month period up to 31 August 2016.

CLAS's other volunteers include law undergraduates from the National University of Singapore, Singapore Management University and various overseas universities, as well as local "A" level students and 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, Tagalog, Burmese, Indian, Thai, and Vietnamese interpreters who assisted CLAS on a pro bono basis, we also continued to receive support from our panel of volunteer psychiatrists and psychologists.

3. 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 2016 has been S\$2,467,994.00. Below is a table of comparison in terms of CLAS's expenditure since 2015.

Year	Expenditure (S\$)	Income (S\$)	Surplus/Deficit (S\$)
2016	2,467,994.00	1,947,161.00	(520,833.00)
2015	1,307,305.00	656,828.00	(650,477.00)

4. CLAS Fellowship 2016

The CLAS Fellowship Team 2016

In 2016, we inducted a new set of CLAS Fellows under the fellowship. There were a large number of applicants for the Fellowship and many of them had extensive criminal practice experience already, making this year's set of Fellows extremely effective advocates for their clients.

Amogh Nallan Chakravarti

Amogh was seconded to the CLAS Fellowship programme from Dentons Rodyk & Davidson LLP. He was an active CLAS volunteer prior to his current role and had already handled a number of CLAS assignments.

Ng Hui Yi Cheryl

Cheryl is no stranger to criminal practice, having focused on criminal defence work at Amarick Gill LLC before joining the CLAS Fellowship. She was

also an active CLAS volunteer before her fellowship, having handled a large number of assignments which included some criminal trial experience.

Ahmad Firdaus bin Daud

Firdaus was seconded to the CLAS Fellowship from Wong Partnership LLP. Prior to commencing his legal career, Firdaus was a civil servant for a number of years. Since joining he has handled a range of criminal matters at both the State Courts and High Court levels including trials.

Rachel Koh

Rachel was seconded to the CLAS Fellowship from Rajah & Tann LLP. Since joining the Fellowship, she has gained extensive Court experience in effectively representing clients in a variety of criminal matters.

Chong Yi Mei

Yi Mei was previously the CLAS MOU Coordinator at Harry Elias Partnership before she left to join the CLAS Fellowship. She was also one of the firm's most active volunteers herself, which gave her the experience to be immediately effective as a CLAS Fellow.

Sadhana Devi Rai

Before joining the CLAS Fellowship in 2015, Sadhana had been part of a litigation team of a top-tier local firm. She has now handled a large number of criminal cases at the State Courts and High Court where she usually appears as first chair. Sadhana has also argued cases at the appellate level.



5. The Formation of the CLAS Standards Sub-Committee

In light of the increased volume of assignments and the expansion of the CLAS volunteer pool, the CLAS Committee formed a Standards Sub-Committee this year to review some of the work being done by volunteers by CLAS as well as to ensure that a consistent minimum standard of work is maintained across the whole volunteer pool and that a high standard of work is promoted generally.

6. Intended Expansion of Enhanced CLAS

The CLAS Committee established another sub-committee to evaluate whether additional offences should be included in the list of offences currently covered by CLAS. The sub-committee's work is ongoing and they will shortly be engaging with the Courts to obtain empirical data to assist in deciding which additional offences to cover in the future.

7. Attorney-General's Appreciation Lunch

Earlier this year, the Attorney-General held an appreciation lunch for the CLAS Fellows and some of the top CLAS volunteers of 2014. The lunch was a rare opportunity for the volunteers to have an open and candid dialogue with the Attorney-General about criminal practice generally and to hear his views on the development of the criminal justice system.

8. CLAS Criminal Law Training Programme

CLAS launched its second run of the Criminal Law Training Programme on 14 January 2016. The Programme consists of 29 modules on various criminal law topics delivered by senior practitioners, academics, experts and psychiatrists. The programme includes lessons at varying levels of complexity to cater to practitioners at all levels of seniority and with a view to substantially progressing a junior practitioner's competence in criminal practice at an accelerated rate.

Registrants can choose to sign up for individual modules or for the entire programme at a discounted price. The programme is open to all and significant discounts are available for active CLAS volunteers. All modules are conducted at the State Courts Bar Room on Thursdays at 5pm.

Details of the modules conducted are as follows:

Module 1	Overview of the Criminal Justice Process	14th Jan 2016
Module 2	Challenging Client Statements	21st Jan 2016
Module 3	Managing Your Caseload	28th Jan 2016
Module 4	Representing Young Clients	4th Feb 2016
Module 5	Interviewing the Client and Other Defence Witnesses	11th Feb 2016
Module 6	Dealing with Difference	18th Feb 2016
Module 7	Arrest and Intake	25th Feb 2016
Module 8	Securing Bail	3rd Mar 2016
Module 9	Interactions with Police and Prosecutors	10th Mar 2016
Module 10	Theory of the Case	17th Mar 2016
Module 11	Investigation	30th Mar 2016
Module 12	Pretrial Discovery Practice	7th Apr 2016
Module 13	Competence to Stand Trial	14th Apr 2016
Module 14	Guilty Pleas	21st Apr 2016
Module 15	Direct Examination and the Defence Witness	28th Apr 2016
Module 16	Evidence and Objections	5th May 2016
Module 17	Impeachment	11th Aug 2016
Module 18	Dealing with Forensic Evidence	19th May 2016
Module 19	Cross-Examination	26th May 2016
Module 20	Role of Criminal Defence Counsel	2nd Jun 2016
Module 21	Experts	9th Jun 2016
Module 22	Immigration Consequences	16th Jun 2016
Module 23	Sexual Offences	23rd Jun 2016
Module 24	Drug Cases	30th Jun 2016
Module 25	Military Prosecutions	7th Jul 2016
Module 26	No Case to Answer and Closing Submissions	14th Jul 2016
Module 27	Sentencing Advocacy	21st Jul 2016
Module 28	Appeals	28th Jul 2016
Module 29	Re-opening Cases	18th Aug 2016

9. 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;
- h. Singapore Tote Board.

Law Awareness

Toh Wei Yi, Chairperson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Toh Wei Yi

CHAIRPERSON

Josephus Tan Joon Liang

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Simran Kaur Toor

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Chua Ming Hao

Chua Wei Ping Cheryl

Dharmambal Shanti Jayaram

Fong Wei Li

Halijah Binte Mohamad

Ho Jia Ni Elaine

June Lim Pei Ling

Kamalarajan Malaiyandi Chettiar

Koh Kia Jeng

Lynn Tok Kwee Hoon

Nicolas Tang Tze Hao

Niranjan Rita

Saburabi Nila Ibrahim

Sarita Misir

Siaw Kin Yeow

Sujatha Selvakumar

Suresh s/o Damodara

Thomas Choo Kong Yu

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 and legal rights, which is crucial to empower the layperson and ensure access to justice for all.

1. Law Awareness Week @ CDC 2016

During the inaugural Law Awareness Week ("LAW") held in July 2015, 30 legal talks were held across the island with the support of 18 volunteer lawyers.

Following last year's success, the Law Society of Singapore is once again collaborating with Singapore's 5 Community Development Councils ("CDCs") to organise a bigger and better LAW 2016.

LAW 2016 will kick off on 3 September at Punggol Waterway Point. We are proud to share that this year, a total of 75 talks have been scheduled, involving 34 volunteer lawyers (including satellite talks that will take place just before or after that week). These legal talks cover 15 different topics and are expected to benefit more than 4,200 residents across Singapore.

2. Project Schools Phase 2

Since its launch in 2012, 30 schools have taken up Phase 1 of Project Schools. We are launching Phase 2 in late 2016. Thus far, 19 schools have accepted the Conditions of Use and another 15 schools have expressed an interest to take it up.

In terms of outreach, Committee members are seeking feedback from schools on their legal concerns, and offering Project Schools as a platform for them to get advice and guidance in educating their students on legal issues.

(a) Teachers' Training Workshops

Quarterly workshops are organised to initiate educators to Project Schools through the introduction of the various modules and the sharing of Phase 1 feedback and experiences. Common issues faced in the classroom and school setting are also addressed and discussed.

(b) Peer-to-Peer Collaborative Platform with Educators on WhatsApp

To encourage shared learning and collaboration, we have created a WhatsApp group where teachers can exchange ideas, clarify any doubts, share suggestions as well as provide feedback on the programme.

3. Law Works

Launched in 2013, Law Works is a partnership between the Law Society and NTUC which aims to educate workers on their legal rights. For the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, a total of 5 legal primer talks on the following topics took place: Personal Data Protection, Workplace Harassment, Workplace Bullying, Intellectual Property and My First Job.

In addition, 3 pocket series booklets were produced: (1) "Up Close and Personal with Data", (2) "Workplace Bullying: Know Your Rights and Remedies"; and (3) "My First Job".



Legal primer and launch of pocket series booklet on Workplace Bullying

Legal clinics are also held on a monthly basis.

In recognition of this successful collaboration, the Law Society was awarded the prestigious May Day 2016 Model Partnerships Award.



Ms Kuan Boon Theng (Vice-President, Law Society) and Mr Lim Tanguy (Director, Pro Bono Services Office) receiving the May Day 2016 Model Partnership Award on behalf of the Law Society

4. Advocates for the Arts

Advocates for the Arts is the Law Society of Singapore's upcoming law awareness initiative which aims to empower the local artists/creative community through the law. It has come to our attention that many artists encounter unfair practices but are unaware of their legal rights.

As part of this initiative, we will be producing a toolkit which aims to equip artists with basic legal information so that they can better protect themselves and their work. To ensure that the content is relevant to the intended audience, the Committee has been gathering feedback and input on the scope of the toolkit from stakeholders across various disciplines in the creative community.

Besides the toolkit, the Committee also plans to conduct talks on the topics covered, in collaboration with these stakeholders so as to reach out to the respective sectors in the creative industries.

Project Law Help

Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey, Chairperson

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey

CHAIRPERSON

Juliana Yap Chin Choo

CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Usha Chandradas

CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Dinesh Dhillon

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Abigail Naomi Dawes

Alex Toh Jun Yong

Annabelle Yip Wai Ping

Anne-Marie John

Esther Foo Wen Ying

Gloria Loo Jing Xi

Helena Whalen-Bridge

Hugh Turnbull

Jason Kang Poh Sing

Jolie Giouw Rong Zhen

Low Seow Ling

Lye Hui Xian

Lyn Boxall

Marini Martin Vincent

Nurul Asyikin Binte Mohamed Razali

Renu Rajan Menon

Sarita Misir

Subramanian s/o Ayasamy Pillai

Yuen Wei Loon Samuel

Richard Tan Ming Kirk

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Lim Tanguy

The Project Law Help Committee's ("PLH Committee") mission is to provide pro bono corporate transactional legal advice and assistance to community organisations, i.e. charities, non-profit organisations and social enterprises. This is done through 2 main schemes: (a) Community Organisations Clinic; and (b) Project Law Help.

1. Schemes

(a) Community Organisations Clinic ("COC")

COC provides free basic legal advice and information to community organisations through a 45-minute consultation session. COCs are very useful for community organisations seeking legal advice and would like to speak to a lawyer, but do not need anything drafted or any legal representation.

(b) Project Law Help ("PLH")

PLH matches community organisations which qualify for assistance with law firms willing to provide free non-litigation commercial legal services. Examples of such legal services include corporate law, employment law, intellectual property law and other legal matters not involving Court litigation advice or representation. Successful applicants work directly with the law firm assigned.

2. Community Organisations Helped (Between 1 August 2015 to 3 August 2016)

a. COC

Number of Enquiries	50
Number Registered	29

b. PLH

Number of Applications	16
Number of Successful Match-ups	14

3. Launch of Revised LEGALESE Toolkit

Legalese is a publication which aims to provide bite-sized pieces of information to the general public on the various legal aspects of setting up and running a social enterprise or non-profit entity.

Published in December 2013, the first edition of Legalese focused solely on social enterprises. In this second edition of Legalese, the scope of the toolkit was expanded to support not only social enterprises but also non-profit organisations.

The revised Legalese was launched on 1 July 2016. A panel discussion on crowd-funding held on the same day was over-subscribed and attended by over 70 representatives from community organisations. In view of the overwhelming response (more than 50 representatives were placed on the waiting list), the PLH Committee intends to hold follow up talks in the coming months.



◀ Launch of Legalese on 1 July 2016 at DBS Foundation's Social Enterprise Exchange

Panelists: ▶
 Standing - Mr Andy Sim (Director of Digital Innovation at NVPC); Seated, left to right – Ms Sarita Misir (Member of the PLH Committee), Ms Ow Kim Kit (Partner at RHTLaw TaylorWessing), Mr Lam Chee Kin (Managing Director & Head of Legal, Compliance and Secretariat at DBS Bank), Ms Camilla Loh (Corporate Communications Executive at TOUCH Community Services)



◀ Photo with representatives of the sponsors. Mr Mahesh Kumar (Withers KhatterWong), Tan Sher Leen (SBF Foundation), Ms Patsian Low (DBS Foundation), Mr Gregory Vijayendran (Vice President, Law Society of Singapore), Mr Jeffrey Lim (Chairperson, Law Society Project Law Help Committee)



4. Providing Holistic Support and Assistance

Where necessary, the PLH Committee meets with the representatives and visits their premises to better understand their operations and the work that they do. This enables the Committee to identify areas in which the organisations may require legal advice and assistance and to provide the necessary follow up support.

Beyond legal advice and assistance through COC and PLH, the Committee also provides support on a broader scale, such as organising legal awareness talks. Besides the seminar on crowd-funding, the Committee also held a joint seminar with the National Council of Social Services ("NCSS") on legal structures for non-profit organisations in January this year, which was attended by over 120 representatives from over 70 organisations. Equipping community organisations with relevant basic legal knowledge helps capacity building for the sector by enabling them to perform more effectively.

5. Collaboration with Key Partners

The PLH Committee works closely with the key agencies in this sector, including the Charity Council, NCSS and Singapore Centre for Social Enterprises ("raiSE"). Increased collaboration between the PLH Committee and these external organisations has been instrumental in allowing the Committee to reach out to a much wider network of community organisations.

In addition, winners of the President's Challenge Social Enterprise Award ("PCSEA"), the only award conferred by the President's Office within the social enterprise, automatically qualify for assistance under PLH.

The Committee will continue to engage relevant stakeholders and explore potential tie-ups to maximise the impact of its outreach efforts.

This page is intentionally left blank.

GROWING OUR PRACTICE



Advocacy

Samuel Chacko, Chairperson

The Advocacy Committee consists of 19 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.

The Committee is involved in training prospective advocates and solicitors through the delivery of the Advocacy Workshops for law graduates undertaking the Part B course conducted by the Singapore Institute of Legal Education ("SILE"). This personalised advocacy coaching to trainee lawyers involves a full-day workshop on a Saturday with a further 2-hour workshop on a Monday evening which runs from July to November each year. The Advocacy Committee maintains a pool of over 100

advocacy trainers who are practising lawyers and judicial officers with at least 5 years of experience in active practice. To ensure consistency and quality in the teaching of advocacy, the Committee conducted 2 teacher training workshops this year, namely the Advocacy Teacher Training Course and the Advocacy Teachers' Refresher Course.

The intensive Advocacy Teacher Training Course was held on 27 and 28 May 2016 for new trainers inducted into the Advocacy Committee's pool of trainers. The Advocacy Teachers' Refresher Course was held on 2 July 2016 and involved a half-day workshop where the advocacy trainers were trained in the methodology used by the Advocacy Committee in the teaching of advocacy.



At The Law Society Trial Advocacy Course (December 2015) – Our senior trainers with the oversea training team – (from left to right) Mr Christopher Whitcutt, SC (GCB), Mr Joseph Liow, Ms Lucy Cornell (Voice Coach), Ms Christina Koch (Voice Coach), Ms Gail Archer, SC (ABA), Mr Samuel Chacko, Mr Chenthil Kumarasingam, Mr Chelva Rajah, SC and Mr Francis Goh

As part of the Committee's continuing professional development efforts, the Committee is in the process of developing a range of training programmes specifically aimed at enhancing both the oral and written advocacy skills of practitioners. In the last year, the Committee has rolled out the Basic Written Advocacy Workshop as well as the Trial Advocacy Course.

The Basic Written Advocacy Workshops comprising a number of modules will run from August to November 2016. Each module involves lectures as well as small group tutorials where participants are expected to submit drafts of various types of documents that commonly feature in a civil claim.

These drafts are then examined and critiqued with a view to identifying aspects of the drafts that can be improved upon. Given the intensive and personalised nature of the training, only up to 28 participants are accommodated for each module.

The Law Society's Trial Advocacy Course, is an intensive 3-day trial course designed to equip participants with the basic skills necessary to effectively conduct a civil claim in Court. The course has been run twice to-date, once in December 2015 and again in June 2016. Given the intensive and personalised nature of the training, only 24 participants are accommodated per run. The course is an intensive 3-day programme which requires participants to prepare and perform as advocates in Court handling interlocutory applications, opening and closing speeches as well as examination and cross-examination of witnesses. The participants get to conduct a mock trial on the last day of the course in an actual Courtroom with examination and cross-examination of witnesses. The performance of each participant is recorded on video and reviewed individually with each participant with a view to



At The Law Society Trial Advocacy Course (June 2016) - Our senior trainers, Mr Chelva Rajah, SC and Mr Samuel Chacko together with one of the trainers from the oversea training team, Ms Julia Baird, SC (ABA)

improving matters of substance, style and delivery by experienced advocacy trainers and voice coaches. In the recent June 2016 course, senior advocacy trainers from the Australian Bar Association ("ABA") and the General Council of the Bar of South Africa ("GCB") assisted our senior trainers in conducting the course. In this regard, the Advocacy Committee would like to express its gratitude to the ABA and the GCB for sending Ms Julia Baird, SC (ABA), Mr Christopher Whitcutt, SC (GCB), Ms Janet McCurdie, SC (GCB) and Mr Ben Katekar (ABA) to assist with the Trial Advocacy Course in June 2016.

The Committee is in the midst of developing an Advanced Trial Advocacy Course, tentatively scheduled to run over 4 days in December 2016 or January 2017. This course is designed to enhance the advocacy skills of practitioners who have at least 8 years of litigation experience. The teaching faculty of this course will be drawn from the Advocacy Committee's pool of senior trainers as well as leading silks and advocacy trainers from Commonwealth jurisdictions.

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 at advocacy courses conducted in Australia by the ABA, in South Africa by the GCB and in Malaysia by the Malaysian Bar Council.

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.

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.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Samuel Chacko

CHAIRPERSON

Sushil Sukumaran Nair

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Gregory Vijayendran

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

A Sangeetha
Bhargavan Sujatha
Chan Ming Onn David
Chelva Retnam Rajah, SC
Chenthil Kumar Kumarasingam
Daniel Koh Choon Guan
Darrell Low Kim Boon
Harish Kumar s/o Champaklal
Hing Shan Shan Blossom
Liow Wang Wu Joseph
Moiz Haider Sithawalla
N. Sreenivasan, SC
Raeza Khaled Salem Ibrahim
Ramesh s/o Selvaraj
Sant Singh Tulsi, SC
Vijay Kumar Rai

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Jean Wong

Alternative Dispute Resolution

Lawrence Teh Kee Wee, Chairperson



Members of the Alternative Dispute Resolution Committee

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

For the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the ADR Committee has actively been involved in a variety of activities. The main activities engaged in by the ADR Committee are set out as follows:

1. Mediation Symposium

Organised by the ADR Committee in collaboration with the members of the "Networking in Mediation" group, the inaugural Mediation Symposium sought to deepen insights on mediation and raise awareness on the mediation programmes available to the public. Attendees heard from experienced mediators, judicial officers and experts from various industries on how mediation can effectively resolve various types of disputes, and watched a role-play which provided participants a holistic view of what mediation is all about and its processes.



Panelists at the Mediation Symposium

2. Courses and Seminars

Representatives of the Mediation Sub-Committee were part of the panellists in "ADR Trends and Insights: How the Changes in the Supreme Court Practice Directions (Amendment to No 1 of 2016) Affects You and Your Clients", where they shared on the new changes to the Supreme Court Practice Directions on alternative dispute resolutions, the rationale behind them and how the changes impacted the practitioner as well as their clients.

The International Arbitration Sub-Committee also organised the "Arbitration or International Commercial Litigation – Same Same, but Different?" seminar which took place on 24 May 2016. The session, presented by a panel which included

International Judge Anselmo Reyes of the Singapore International Commercial Court and Francis Xavier, SC, was aimed to equip practitioners with a working knowledge on the key differences between the two modes of dispute resolution, and the benefits and pitfalls that parties should be aware of in making their selection.

An "Introductory Course to Arbitration" is also scheduled to take place in September 2016. Designed by the International Arbitration Sub-Committee to cater to young practitioners and practitioners looking to get started on arbitration work, the series of 4 seminars will give participants an opportunity to learn from seasoned arbitration practitioners and gain valuable insights on arbitration law, procedure and practice.

3. Law Society Arbitration Scheme ("LSAS")

In light of the upcoming launch of the LSMS, the LSAS Sub-Committee has taken on the task of reviewing the existing LSAS procedures and rules in an effort to promote better synergy between the schemes. This has led to the introduction of a new arbitration-mediation-arbitration process into the LSAS to better cater to the needs of the users.

To further promote wider use of the LSAS, the ADR Committee is also exploring the possibility of working with mediation institutions such as the Singapore Mediation Centre ("SMC") to have the LSAS implemented as the 'to go to' scheme for the arbitration leg of their mediation-arbitration process.

4. Law Society Mediation Scheme ("LSMS")

In line with preparations for the launch of the LSMS, members were invited to apply for appointment to the panel of the LSMS. The closing date for the application was 15 August 2016. The applications received are currently being reviewed with a view to constituting the panel in time for the official launch of the LSMS.

5. Consultations

The Committee has also provided valuable feedback on consultations relating to the Mediation Bill as well

as the proposed framework for third party funding in international arbitration matters.

6. Interaction with the Japan Association of Arbitrators

Representatives of the ADR Committee are in the midst of arranging a speaking engagement with members of the Japan Association of Arbitrators at their monthly seminar to share the Law Society's alternative dispute resolution initiatives. Scheduled to take place on 12 September 2016 at the Japan Federation of Bar Associations in Tokyo, this seminar is being organised with the assistance of the Tokyo Bar Association.

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 Samiwalla

Bhargavan Sujatha

Cameron Ford

Chong Yee Leong

Emmanuel Duncan Chua

Farrah Joelle Isaac

Han Shanru Gloria Bernadette

Ho Chye Hoon

Ho May Kim

Lee Hui Yi

Rajan Chettiar

Rengarajoo s/o Rengasamy Balasamy

See Chern Yang

Sundareswara Sharma

Syahrul Bahiah binti Jamaludin

Tan Kai-Lit Melvin

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

K Gopalan

Civil Practice

M K Eusuff Ali, Chairperson



Members of the Civil Practice Committee

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 Workshop 2016

The Committee organised the Litigation Conference 2016 ("Conference") which was held on 7 and 8 April 2016. This was the fourth of the series which was first started in 2013. The Honourable Sir Bernard Eder, International Judge of the Singapore International Commercial Court, was invited as the keynote speaker for the Conference, where he shared very interesting perspectives on legal practice acquired during his time as litigator, arbitrator and Judge.

The Conference was designed as a 2-day workshop to allow practitioners to develop their litigation skills on a practical level. The teaching outline was centred on a case-study which had been specially developed by an eminent Queen's Counsel for the Conference. Participants were divided into smaller groups to engage with their trainers, with the trainers coming from a group of 18 Queen's Counsel, 12 Senior Counsel and 11 senior practitioners. Participants

were treated to a mock cross-examination by role-playing trainers, who further shared their insights on trial and appellate advocacy.

For the first time since the series started, this year's Conference featured a bonus session titled "Advocacy, Strategy and Tactics – A Frank Discussion with Queen's Counsel". The central focus of the session was for Conference participants to pose queries to a specially-selected panel of experienced Queen's Counsel on topics concerning civil and commercial litigation advocacy, strategy and tactics.

The Conference enjoyed a resounding success, with 299 registrants consisting of both local and overseas delegates. The overall feedback received showed that the Conference was once again very 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.

The Committee was involved in dialogues with the State Courts in September and November 2015, where the Committee gave feedback on a variety of matters, such as feedback regarding Order 108 Rules of Court on the simplified process for proceedings in the Magistrate's Court or District Court.

The Committee was involved in a dialogue with the Supreme Court in September 2015, where the Committee gave feedback on the Singapore International Commercial Court and the recently introduced Supreme Court Cost Guidelines.

3. Consultations

The Committee continues to participate actively in public and private consultations, such as the Ministry of Manpower consultation on the proposed Employment Claims Tribunal, the Ministry of Law consultations on the Mediation Bill 2016, Civil Law (Amendment) Bill 2016 and Civil Law (Third Party Funding) Regulations 2016.

4. Other Notable Initiatives

(a) Civil Practice Updates and Feedback Page

As part of its outreach efforts to members of the Civil Bar, the Committee had launched both the Civil Practice Feedback page and Civil Practice Updates page on the Law Society website at the start of 2016.

The Civil Practice Feedback page allows members to provide feedback on rules and aspects of Court practice, where the Committee would thereafter endeavour to channel such feedback to relevant stakeholders.



Civil Practice Updates web page

The Civil Practice Updates page reflects short summaries on recent developments emanating from the Courts and other relevant stakeholders with links provided to the actual source documents.

(b) Discussion Paper on "Reforms to Discovery: Factors for Consideration"

The Civil Justice Commission was formed in 2015 and was tasked by the Honourable the Chief Justice Sundaresh Menon to reform and consider transformative changes to the litigation process and civil procedure. The Committee has found that "discovery" as part of the litigation process requires reconsideration and will be submitting its paper to the Council with a view to a possible submission to the Civil Justice Commission.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

M K Eusuff Ali

CHAIRPERSON

Lim Wei Loong Ian

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Tan May Lian Felicia

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Ang Hsueh Ling Celeste
 Chan Ming Onn David
 Chia Boon Teck
 Dennis Chua Soon Chai
 Han Guangyuan Keith
 Henry Heng Gwee Nam
 Kronenburg Edmund Jerome
 Lawrence Teh Kee Wee
 Lim Chen Thor Jason
 Matthew Saw Seang Kuan
 Michelle Woodworth
 Rengarajoo s/o Rengasamy Balasamy
 Ramesh s/o Selvaraj
 Snggeeta Rai
 Terence Tan Wee Kio
 Tham Lijing
 Yeoh Kar Hoe Richard

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

K Gopalan

Continuing Professional Development

*Daniel Koh Choon Guan, Co-Chairperson
Wong Li Kok Alex, Co-Chairperson*



SG50 Double Bill (Biennial Lecture 2015 + Annual CPD Day 2015)

Over 55 seminars, workshops and conferences were organised and supported by the Society from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, which attracted more than 4,700 registrations from both members and non-members.

With the implementation of the Mandatory CPD Scheme for lawyers with up to 15 years of practice experience, the CPD Committee, together with the various practice committees, reviewed and designed a diverse range of programmes to cater to the different categories of our membership.

Some highlights of the CPD calendar this year include:

- 2nd National Insolvency Conference organised by the Insolvency Practice Committee on 11 September 2015;
- SG50: Biennial Lecture + Annual CPD Day 2015 jointly organised by the CPD Committee and the International Relations Committee in celebration of Singapore's Golden Jubilee, on 8 & 9 October 2015;
- Litigation Conference Workshop 2016 organised by the Civil Practice Committee (7 & 8 April 2016);
- Moving the "Ethics in Practice for Practice Trainees" programme to an e-learning platform which allows more than 600 practice trainees to learn and apply basic ethical principles and precepts through the use of interactive online exercises and case scenarios;
- Mediation Symposium organised by the ADR Committee on 20 May 2016;
- Criminal Law Conference organised in collaboration with the Attorney-General's Chambers, Association of Criminal Lawyers of Singapore and Singapore Academy of Law on 14 & 15 July 2016;
- More professional skills-based programmes for practitioners such as business analysis skills, networking skills and leadership development for legal practitioners.

The CPD Committee is acutely aware of the challenges faced by our members given the current economic landscape. The CPD Committee is constantly working on ensuring that CPD offerings provide value and remain affordable.

The following are the initiatives that the CPD Committee rolled out in 2016 which were highly subsidized for practitioners:

- The Law Society Leading Practitioner Series: The Singapore International Lawyer, held on 21 March 2016 which provided insights on the role of Singapore lawyers in a globalised legal market;
- The Law Society Contracts Masterclass on 1 July 2016 which discussed various aspects of commercial transaction practice; and
- The Law Society Technology Day on 8 July 2016 to help legal practitioners keep abreast with the technology advancements and trends.

Some upcoming events of the CPD calendar include:

- 3rd Regional Insolvency Conference 2016 organised by the Insolvency Practice Committee on 15-16 September 2016;
- Annual CPD Day on 1 November 2016; and
- 5th Litigation Conference organised by the Civil Practice Committee in April 2017 (dates to be confirmed).

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 CPD Committee will continue to work closely with the Singapore Institute of Legal Education ("SILE") and strengthen collaborations with our partners, i.e. the Judiciary, Attorney-General's Chambers and Singapore Academy of Law.

The CPD Committee also provided prompt and useful institutional feedback to the SILE during the public consultation for Phase 3 of the Mandatory CPD Scheme in April 2016.

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Daniel Koh Choon Guan

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Wong Li Kok Alex

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Mohamad Rizuan Bin Pathie

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Yeo Chuan Tat

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Andrew Chan Chee Yin
Chen Jianhao Kennedy
Edward Stanley Tay Wey Kok
Foo Wen Ying Esther
Foo Fei Ying Sandy
Kuppusamy Gerald Chien-Yi
Koh Swee Yen
Marini Martin Vincent
Raeza Khaled Salem Ibrahim
Song Ruoh Jin
Tan Tiaw Kheng
Vijay Kumar Rai

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Jean Wong

Conveyancing Practice

Lee Liat Yeang, Chairperson



Members of the Conveyancing Practice Committee

The Conveyancing Practice Committee presents its report for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016. Information regarding the Committee's key activities and projects for the reporting period is set out as follows:

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 2015" ("DCH 2015"). This event was held on 6 November 2015 for the 4th consecutive year. Speakers at this event included members of the management and legal counsel from both public and private sector entities, namely the Housing and Development Board, Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore, Jurong Town Corporation, Jones Lang LaSalle Valuation Advisory Services, Lockton

Companies (Singapore) Pte. Ltd., Personal Data Protection Commission, Singapore Land Authority and Singapore Management University.

A range of relevant topics for real estate practitioners was presented at DCH 2015, with speakers discussing topics such as the "Paperless Title Scheme", "Managing Industrial Land and Space", "Pitfalls in Conveyancing", "Principles of Property Valuation" and "Stamp Duty on Immovable Properties". Practitioners were also given a legal update on recent case law relating to real estate and a primer on the recently enacted Personal Data Protection Act. Overall, the topics featured key aspects of real estate practice and also allowed practitioners to appreciate other peripheral but equally relevant issues.

The DCH 2015 was well-attended, with a healthy distribution of practitioners ranging from the junior to the senior category. As the annual "Day of Conveyancing Highlights" series continues to receive much attention from the members of the Bar, the Committee is now preparing the programme

for the “Day of Conveyancing Highlights 2016” (“DCH 2016”), which is scheduled to take place on 2 November 2016. DCH 2016 will feature a broader range of topics which are of interest to real estate practice.

3. Consultation

The Committee provided valuable feedback to the Ministry of Law on the enhanced conveyancing measures, which were implemented in August 2011 to deal primarily with the misappropriation of clients’ moneys. Part of the Committee’s feedback dealt with the Expedited Adjudication Scheme as administered by the Law Society under Section 20 of the Conveyancing and Law of Property (Conveyancing) Rules 2011.

4. 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.

5. Other Initiatives

Mr Lee Liat Yeang, Chairperson of the Committee, was featured in the Singapore Law Gazette (December 2015 issue), where he shared his experiences and opinions on conveyancing practice for the benefit of practitioners.

On behalf of the Committee, Mr Timothy Loh gave a presentation on “Additional Buyer’s Stamp Duty – Pointers from Practitioners” at the State Courts luncheon in July 2016 jointly organised by the Small Law Firms Committee and the State Courts and Family Justice Courts Committee. The presentation covered the misconceptions and lesser-known aspects of the additional buyer’s stamp duty, including tips on how to structure transactions to avoid it. The presentation was extremely informative and very well-received by the attendees.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lee Liat Yeang

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Ang Keng Lee

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Lisa Sam Hui Min

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Chew Mei Choo

Chua Lei Kwan Lina Mary

Chuang Keng Chiew

Gary Teo Eng Thye

Haryadi Hadi

Lai Jenny

Loh Keng Shin Timothy

Selina Chin

Sim Rui Ying

Tan Ching Chern

Tan Shijie

Vincent Yeoh

Wee Cheng Imm Hope

Wendy Wong

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

K Gopalan

▼ Chairperson's interview in the Singapore Law Gazette



Corporate Practice

Chan Pengee Adrian, Co-Chairperson

Kelvin Wong, Co-Chairperson

Huang Yen San Petrus, Chairperson (1 Sep 2015 to 31 Dec 2015)



Members of the Corporate Practice Committee

During the reporting period commencing 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Corporate Practice Committee (the "Committee") was involved in considering various corporate related matters from time to time with a view to reaching a deeper common understanding of the legal issues.

1. Committee's Proposal to Amend the Companies Act

The Committee had, in December 2015, submitted a proposal to the Institute of Corporate Law for consideration to amend the Companies Act, in light of the uncertainty and practical difficulties raised in the English case of *R (on the application of Mercury Tax Group and another) v HMRC* [2008] EWHC 2721.

2. Forum

The Committee organised a forum on 15 July 2016 to engage in dialogue with and collect feedback

from corporate practitioners on the practical issues they faced in adapting market practices to the new Companies Act, and the reality of BizFile+ and the electronic Register of Members ("eROM"), both of which were introduced on 3 January 2016. The panel for the forum comprised Committee members Low Kah Keong, Ferzana Haq and Nicholas Chong, as well as 2 representatives from ACRA who presented on the BizFile+ changes in relation to the Companies (Amendment) Act 2014.

3. Dialogues

The Committee has regular dialogue sessions with the Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority ("ACRA") to discuss issues encountered in practice 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.

4. Seminars

The Committee intends to collaborate with the Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants to organise seminars on accounting for practitioners.

5. Representative on the IRAS's Committee – Study of the Tax Ecosystem and Practices in Singapore

Sharma, as the Law Society's representative on the IRAS Committee to participate in the study of the tax ecosystem and practices in Singapore, has been engaged in meetings and matters relating to this study.

Circular to members on a forum with corporate practitioners on practical issues faced in adapting market practices to the new Companies Act



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chan Pengee Adrian

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Kelvin Wong

CO-CHAIRPERSON/COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Chong Chia Chi
Chong Foo Nam Nicholas
Ferzana Fareen Haq
Giouw Rong Zhen Jolie
Ho Ying Ming
Huang Yen San Petrus
Jeremy Choo Joon Haw
Lo Kim Seng
Low Kah Keong
Mifiona Quah
Nigel Yeoh Lian Chuan
Sarita Misir
Sing Faith Joy
Sundareswara Sharma
Tong Wei Min Raymond
William John Jamieson

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

Criminal Practice

*Wong Hin Pkin Wendell, Co-Chairperson
Shashidran Nathan, Co-Chairperson*



Dialogue with Health Sciences Authority on 30 September 2016

This report is for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016.

1. 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.

2. We have been honoured to be able to expand our pool of consultants to include Assistant Professor Cheah Wui Ling from the National University of Singapore.

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

4. **Main Committee Meetings** were held on the following dates:

- 17 November 2015 – Update from the various sub-committees on the projects/activities done and map out continuing work for 2016

- 27 January 2016 – Kick-off meeting of 2016
- 24 June 2016 – Second meeting to discuss the progress of various initiatives

5. Sub-committee Meetings:

- Raising the Standards of the Criminal Bar
 - 9 March 2016
- Investigations Protocol
 - 18 February 2016
 - 4 May 2016
 - 18 August 2016
- Sentencing Reform & Prosecution Discretion paper
 - 23 March 2016
 - 6 June 2016
- Undue Delay in Investigations
 - 16 October 2015
 - 17 June 2016

6. **Town Hall Sessions** with Criminal Practice practitioners were held on:

- 30 September 2015: Update members on the proposed enhanced Primary Justice Project (CCMS/CCR) and Pilot Project for Video Recording of Statements.
- 9 March 2016: Update members on access to counsel paper, undue delay in investigations, sentencing review, diversionary measures (in lieu of prosecution), Criminal Law Conference 2016, Criminal Law Internships 2016 and AGC's Cup.
- 22 June 2016: Update members on the AGC's press statement regarding Ko Jabing's matter, Access to Counsel and Video Recording of Statements, Undue Delay in Investigations, Sentencing Review/Diversionary Measures (in lieu of prosecution) sub-committee, use of experts reports, enhanced pre-sentencing protocol by State Courts, recent feedback to State Courts on practice related matters, Criminal Law Conference 2016 including the Regional Defence Bar Forum, and our next Tripartite Lunch.

7. **Dialogue Session** with the Chief Justice on 4 September 2015 at the Supreme Court Viewing Gallery.

8. **Dialogue Sessions** with the State Courts on 4 February 2016 and 19 May 2016.

9. **Dialogue Sessions** with the Attorney-General's Chambers on 23 September 2015 at Maharajah North Indian Tandoori Restaurant and on 17 August 2016 at O'Parl Café.

10. **Dialogue Sessions** with the Health Sciences Authority ("HAS") on 30 September 2015. On 26 February 2016, the committee was invited to the HSA Forensic Laboratories Induction Visit.

11. **Amendments to Criminal Procedure Code (Reformative Training) Regulations:** Meeting with Ministry of Home Affairs on 11 January 2016 to discuss amendments to Criminal Procedure Code (reformative Training) Regulations.

12. **Integrated Case Management System ("ICMS") Steering Committee** meeting on 22 July 2016 to discuss issues with the ICMS system.

13. **Criminal Bar Get Together:** The Committee hosted the Criminal Bar Get-together at Harry's on 18 March 2016. These get-togethers have been a signature event on the calendar for members of the Criminal Bar to build camaraderie.

14. **Lunch Events** were held as follows:

- 1 October 2015 – With Registrar Supreme Court Vincent Hoong at the Law Society premises.
- 27 January 2016 - With the Attorney-General Chambers ("AGC") and National University of Singapore ("NUS") Innocence Project Singapore at Shahi Maharani.

15. **The Tripartite Lunch** on 11 March 2016 was hosted by AGC at the Supreme Court Viewing Gallery.

16. **The 3rd Criminal Law Conference 2016** was held on 14 and 15 July 2016 at the Supreme Court Auditorium.

17. **The AGC's Cup** was held on 31 March 2016 at the Jalan Besar Stadium. The Criminal Bar ladies stormed to a 30-16 victory for the Inaugural Captain's Ball game while our men's soccer team won 3-1.

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Wong Hin Pkin Wendell

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Shashidran Nathan

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Gloria James-Civetta

CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Amolat Singh

CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Sunil Sudheesan

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

A Sangeetha

Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim

Cheong Jun Ming Mervyn

Chin Li Wen Tania

Chan Cong Yen, Lionel

Cheong Fook Hing Nicholas

Chenthil Kumar Kumarasingam

Chia Boon Teck

Derek Kang Yu Hsien

Josephus Tan Joon Liang

Lam Kuet Keng Steven John

Low Ying Li Christine

Nadia Ui Mhuimhneachain

Peter Ong Lip Cheng

Prof Woon Cheong Ming Walter

Raphael Louis

Ramesh Chandr Tiwary

Suresh s/o Damodara

Siaw Kin Yeow

Satwant Singh s/o Sarban Singh

Tan Chor Hoon Alice

Tan Li-Chern Terence

Tham Lijing

Thong Chee Kun

Vikram Ranjan Ramasamy

Wee Heng Yi Adrian

Yusfiyanto Bin Yatiman

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

Prof. Cheah Wui Ling

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Lim Tanguy

Eoin Ó Muimhneacháin

Family Law Practice

*Michelle Woodworth, Co-Chairperson
Raymond Yeo Khee Chye, Co-Chairperson
Yap Teong Liang, Co-Chairperson (1 Sep 2015 to 31 Dec 2015)*



Members of the Family Law Practice Committee

For the reporting period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Family Law Practice Committee (the "Committee") has been involved in the following activities:

1. Sub-committees

In the spirit of an all-inclusive approach to participation and to facilitate the work of the Committee, members were assigned to the following subcommittees to contribute to various projects.

- a. Consultations, Legislation & Law Reform
- b. Publications, Research Papers & Articles
- c. Seminars, CPD Events & Speaking Engagements
- d. Bar Liaison, including Accreditation & Town Hall Sessions

2. Dialogues with the Family Justice Courts ("FJC")

The Committee continues to engage in regular dialogues with the FJC to receive updates and provide feedback on matters relating to the Family Justice Courts practice, procedure and access to justice.

3. Consultations

The Committee provided views on consultations relating to the draft Women's Charter (Amendment) Bill 2016 and the Mediation Bill 2016.

4. Legal Clinics

Committee members continue to provide free legal advice every Wednesday at legal clinics in the Family Justice Courts.

5. Tea Session with the Office of Public Guardian ("OPG")

Members of the Family Practice and Probate Practice & Succession Planning Committees were invited to a tea session with the Public Guardian in February 2016. Representatives from OPG updated the Committee on their work and the collaboration between the Law Society, Family Justice Courts and OPG on a seminar that it was intending to organise.

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

As a continuing tradition, Committee members met with students from the Faculty of Law on 6 April 2016 for a tea session to share their experiences as family law practitioners.

7. Invitation by the Family Justice Courts to host Sir Mathew Thorpe

The Committee hosted Sir Mathew Thorpe, a former Lord Justice of the UK Court of Appeal and former Head of International Family Justice of England and Wales who was on a working visit to Singapore, to an informal dinner in March 2016.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Michelle Woodworth	CO-CHAIRPERSON
Raymond Yeo Khee Chye	CO-CHAIRPERSON
Rajan Chettiar	CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Amolat Singh	CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON
Chia Boon Teck	COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Anuradha d/o Krishan Chand Sharma
 Belinda Ang Choo Poh
 Cheong Yen Lin, Adriene
 Chia Chwee Imm Helen
 Dorothy Chai Li Li
 Ellen Lee Geck Hoon (Consultant)
 Halijah Binte Mohamad
 Jenny Lai Ying Ling
 Kalpanath Singh Rina
 Kee Lay Lian
 Lim Pei Ling June
 Malathi Das (Consultant)
 Mirchandani Poonam Lachman
 Nadia Ui Mhuimhneachain
 Seet Pek Hian Harold
 Tan Hui Qing
 Tan Ngah Sze Bevelyn
 Teh Guek Ngor Engelin, SC
 Wong Soo Chih
 Yap Teong Liang (Consultant)

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

Information Technology

Elaine Tan Ee Lian, Chairperson



Law Society Technology Day held on 8 July 2016

The Information Technology Committee continued the work of previous committees in the following areas:

- (i) Collecting and providing feedback to the Courts on the use of IT by the Courts; and
- (ii) Conducting talks and sessions for members on the use of IT by a law practice.

The Committee also undertook the following activities:

1. Legal Industry Needs Study

Law Society, with the support of the Ministry of Law, conducted a study of small and medium Singapore Law Practices ("SLPs") to understand the needs and challenges faced by such SLPs in the adoption of technology for enhancing the productivity, capabilities and competitiveness of small and medium SLPs. Members of the Committee volunteered to have their firms participate in the survey.

2. Legal Technology Cluster Committee

The Singapore Academy of Law (the "Academy") consolidated the LawNet Management Committee and the Electronic Litigation Committee into a new committee, the Legal Technology Cluster Committee. The mission of the newly formed Legal Technology Cluster Committee is to spearhead and develop the use and exploitation of IT to improve the service levels throughout the legal industry.

Several members of the IT Committee are in the Legal Technology Cluster Committee to support the Academy's efforts to develop the use of IT for the legal industry and to ensure that the interests and needs of the legal practitioners are voiced and addressed. The Committee participated in the Legal Technology Cluster Committee Retreat held on 9 May 2016 and shall continue to assist the Legal Technology Cluster Committee to develop its masterplan for the adoption and exploitation of IT in the legal industry.

3. Continuing Education

Members of the committee participated in Law Society's Technology Day on 8 July 2016 as part of its continuing effort to share information with its members on the various IT solutions and services, particularly cloud solutions that may be available to improve productivity and efficiencies. Vendors providing IT solutions and services in areas such as research, practice management, document management and IT security also participated in the Technology Day.

Sessions were held throughout the day for practitioners to share information and knowledge on how some firms have adopted technology to enhance productivity and capabilities. A talk was also held on the grants available for technology adoption by law firms. The sessions were well received by participants and members who attended the various talks and sessions.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Elaine Tan Ee Lian

CHAIRPERSON

Lim Seng Siew

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Anil Narain Balchandani
 Bryan Manaf Ghows
 Chenthil Kumar Kumarasingam
 Ho Chye Hoon
 Kao Kwok Weng Jonathan (Gao Guorong)
 Kronenburg Edmund Jerome
 Lee Shi Yan
 Lim Ruixuan Audrey
 Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey
 Niklas Wong See Keat
 Nirmala Ravindran
 Nurul Asyikin Binte Mohamed Razali
 Teng Hin Weng Mark
 Terence Tan Wee Kio
 Zhuang Baoling Alicia

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Michael Ho

Insolvency Practice

Sushil Sukumaran Nair, Chairperson

During the reporting period from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Insolvency Practice Committee (the "Committee") actively sought to advance the practice area of insolvency law by co-organising the 3rd Regional Insolvency Conference with the Insolvency Practitioners Association of Singapore which will be held on 15 and 16 September 2016.

1. Regional Insolvency Conference

Following the success of the inaugural National Insolvency Conference in 2015, the Committee will be organising another regional conference which seeks to bring together leading legal, accounting, and financial practitioners, with esteemed panellists comprising members of the judiciary, accounting, banking and others involved in the various aspects of insolvency work.

The conference provides a platform for practitioners to explore the difficult questions of dispute resolution and litigation funding, financial international restructuring, and changes to the laws and perspectives on cross-border insolvency. Some of the topics for discussion will include the role of the judiciary in relation to facilitating and regulating cross-border insolvency, civil law and common law perspectives on cross-border insolvency, and Singapore as an international centre for debt restructuring.

The conference will feature a line-up of distinguished panellists and speakers including leading legal, accounting and financial practitioners with Judges from around the region. The Honourable Justice Vinodh Coomaraswamy will be chairing the session on Judicial Colloquium on Day 1 of the Conference. Senior Minister of State for Law and Finance, Ms Indranee Rajah, SC will be delivering the keynote. The welcoming address and closing address will be

delivered by the Committee Chairperson, Mr Sushil Sukumaran Nair and the Chairman of the organising committee, Mr Andrew Chan respectively.

2. Representative on IPAS

Chairperson Mr 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.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Sushil Sukumaran Nair

CHAIRPERSON

Tong Chun Fai Edwin Charles

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Nicholas Thio Syn Wei

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Adrian Peh Nam Chuan

Andrew Chan Chee Yin

Balakrishnan Ashok Kumar

Chan Ming Onn David

Edward Tiong Yung Suh

Gregory Vijayendran

Hing Shan Shan Blossom

Ho Mingjie Kevin

Kenneth Lim Tao Chung

Lim Hui Li Debby

Lim Kian Kim

Mohan Gopalan

Nish Kumar Shetty

Ong Kar Wei

Sandrasegara Manoj Pillay

Sim Kwan Kiat

Tay Kang-Rui Darius

Tham Wei Chern

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

Intellectual Property

Jo-Ann See Siew Heok, Chairperson



Members of the Intellectual Property Committee

The Intellectual Property Practice Committee (the “Committee”), which is further divided into 5 Sub-Committees, focuses on supporting IP practitioners in the different areas of intellectual property practice. The Sub-Committees are: Trademarks, Patents, Enforcement, Design & Copyright, and Emerging Issues.

For the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the main activities engaged by the Committee are set out as follows:

1. Feedback and Consultations

The Committee has, through the course of the year, been actively participating in Consultations by providing valuable feedback on various initiatives. This includes the Committee’s response to the Public Consultation on Proposed Changes to Singapore’s Registered Designs Regime at the invitation of the Intellectual Property Office of Singapore (“IPOS”), as well as the feedback given by the Committee on the Revised Chapter 8 of the Examination Guidelines for Patent Applications at IPOS.

2. Courses and Seminars

The Design & Copyright and Enforcement Sub-Committees are in the midst of planning talks and seminars touching on their respective areas of practice, details of which will be announced at a later date.

“

The Committee has, through the course of the year, been actively participating in Consultations by providing valuable feedback on various initiatives.

3. Dialogues

The Committee aims to contribute towards the development of the legal regime and practice of intellectual property in Singapore by engaging in regular dialogues with the Courts and IPOS either through informal tea sessions or correspondence on hot-button issues that affects the practice in general.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Jo-Ann See Siew Heok

CHAIRPERSON

Jonathan Foong Yew Cho

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Tien De Ming Grismond

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Anil Narain Balchandani
 Boxall Lynette Maureen
 Boo Yee Swan
 Elaine Tan Ee Lian
 George Bonaventure Hwang Chor Chee
 Haq Tasneem Rehena
 Jevon Louis
 Kang Poh Sing
 Lim Sui Yin Jeffrey
 Lew Yee Wen Elaine
 Lam Chung Nian
 Loh Chiu Cheong Dennis
 Murgiana Haq
 Moi Sok Ling (Mei Shuling)
 Ng Chee Weng @ Max Ng Chee Weng
 Ravindran s/o Muthucumarasamy
 Soh Kar Liang
 Teng Hin Weng Mark
 Tan Kee Leng
 Tang Li Ling Yvonne

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

International Relations

Lok Vi Ming, SC, Chairperson

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

- 23 September 2015 – Delegation from Taiwan Bar Association
- 4 November 2015 – A representative from the Law Society of England and Wales
- 19 January 2016 – Delegation from China Law Society
- 11 March 2016 – Vice-President of Korean Bar Association
- 30 March 2016 – Delegation from European Law Students' Association
- 7 April 2016 – Delegation from Miyazaki Bar Association of Japan
- 7 July 2016 – Delegation from the Ministry of Justice of South Korea

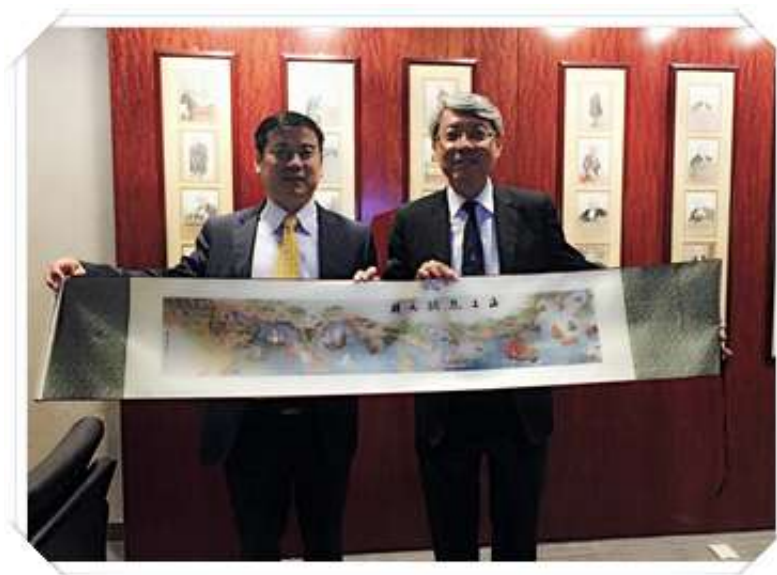


Delegation from Miyazaki Bar Association of Japan

Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU")

To promote and strengthen the cooperation between the Law Society and overseas bar associations and the exchanges between Singapore lawyers and lawyers in overseas jurisdictions, the Society signed a MOU with Taiwan Bar Association on 23 September 2015.

The Law Society will also be signing a MOU with Osaka Bar Association on 18 October 2016.



Delegation from China Law Society

Overseas Missions

Myanmar

Following a successful previous 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 circumstances. We will announce the details of the Mission once confirmed.

Japan

The Committee at the time of writing this report will be organising a Mission to Japan from 17 to 20 October 2016, to both cities of Tokyo and Osaka.

While there, the Committee will also be co-organising a seminar in both Tokyo (with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations) and Osaka (Osaka Bar Association).

Opening of the Legal Year ("OLY")

The Committee assisted the Council to plan an OLY programme and members of the Committee also acted as liaison officers for visiting overseas bar leaders.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lok Vi Ming, SC

CHAIRPERSON

Chung Ka Kay Katie

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Alfred Dodwell
 Amira Nabila Budiyo
 Andre Ravindran Saravanapavan Arul
 Ang Hsueh Ling Celeste
 Cheryl Yeo Wei Li
 Chong Yee Leong
 Chua MingHao
 Dayne Ho Chung Wei
 Evelyn Henning
 Huang Helen Yao
 Jeremy Choo
 Kala Anandarajah
 Koh Li Qun Kelvin
 Koh Hui Xiang Sylvia
 Lim Qian Wen Amanda
 Loo Jing Xi Gloria
 Mahesh Rai
 Mark Tan Teik Yu
 Ooi Huey Hien
 Patrick Tan Tse Chia
 Peter Ong Lip Cheng
 Prasad s/o Karunakarn
 Rajenthiran Arumugam
 Samuel Wee Choong Sian
 Tan Kai Liang
 Tay Kuan Seng
 Tay Li Yan
 Teo-Yong Siew Lee Magdalene
 Tham Keng Yue Gerald
 Yasmeen Jamil Marican
 Yee Mun Howe Gerald

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Shawn Toh

Muslim Law Practice

Ahmad Nizam Bin Abbas, Chairperson



Members of the Muslim Law Practice Committee

For the reporting period from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Muslim Law Practice Committee (the "Committee") was active in the following initiatives:

1. Seminars

The Committee held a seminar on "Muslim Inheritance Law" in August 2016, in collaboration with the Probate Practice and Succession Planning Committee.

Chairman was invited by Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura ("MUIS") to speak at the Seminar Perancangan Harta 2016 (Wasiat, Faraidh & Harta Pusaka) on 19 March 2016. The Committee also collaborated with the MUIS Academy to host a group of participants to a sharing session on 31 March 2016, as part of MUIS Learning Journey for the Advanced Asatizah Executive Development Programme. The sharing session was successfully conducted with Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Halijah presenting on the topic "Family Law and Inheritance".

2. Consultation

The Committee provided views on the public consultation relating to the Women's Charter (Amendment) Bill 2016.

3. Committee's Initiative

The Committee invited members to provide feedback of relevance and concerns on wills, nuzariah, hibah, and other inheritance-related issues for the Committee to assist in channeling the collated feedback to the relevant stakeholders.

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

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

5. 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 the public at the SCWO's legal clinics every month.

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 standards of Muslim law in Singapore.

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

Mohamed Fazal Bin Abdul Hamid

Norashikin Binte Kamal

Nur Liyana Binte Mohamed Sinwan

Siti Ai'shah Binte Md Yusoff (Left practice in March 2016)

Yasmeen Jamil Marican

Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

Personal Injury and Property Damage

Willy Tay Boon Chong, Chairperson

The Personal Injury and Property Damage ("PIPD") Committee presents its report for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016. Information regarding the Committee's key activities and projects for the reporting period is set out as follows:

1. PIPD Pre-Action ADR Scheme

The PIPD Committee delivered a presentation to the Judges of the State Courts on the PIPD Pre-Action ADR Scheme, which is targeted at non-injury motor accident cases of value \$3,000/- and below – as a pilot project. It is intended to extend to all injury and non-injury motor accident cases in the future. The presentation was led by Mr Abdul Salim and outgoing PIPD Committee Chairperson, Mr Teo Weng Kie. The presentation was also attended by Mr Thio Shen Yi, SC, President of the Law Society, Mr Lawrence Teh, Chairperson of the Alternative Dispute Resolution ("ADR") Committee and the current PIPD Committee Chairperson .

The Committee continues to collaborate with the ADR Committee in developing the PIPD Pre-Action ADR Scheme. Mr Abdul Salim and Mr Jayaprakash continue to helm the development of the scheme.

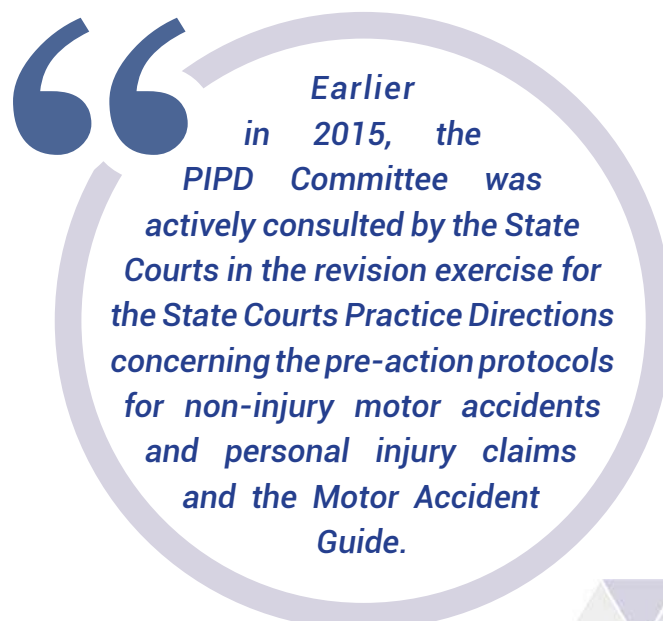
2. PIPD Seminar

The PIPD Committee is at the planning stages of a seminar which aims to, inter alia, educate younger practitioners on the common pitfalls to be aware of when dealing with both personal injury and non-injury motor accident cases and to discuss the latest case law affecting PIPD practice. The seminar is likely to be held by the first quarter of 2017.

3. Dialogues with Stakeholders

The PIPD Committee continues to engage with the General Insurance Association of Singapore to exchange feedback received from our members regarding insurance practice.

The PIPD Committee has frequent consultations with the State Courts. Earlier in 2015, the PIPD Committee was actively consulted by the State Courts in the revision exercise for the State Courts Practice Directions concerning the pre-action protocols for non-injury motor accidents and personal injury claims and the Motor Accident Guide. Constance Paglar and Paul Yap were the Committee representatives assisting the State Courts on this front. The revisions to the pre-action protocols took effect on 1 April 2016. The PIPD Committee continues to engage with the State Courts to provide feedback on these protocols, with the latest dialogue taking place in July 2016.



4. Other Key Initiatives

The PIPD Committee continues to assist the Singapore Mediation Centre in relation to the development of a hybrid alternative dispute resolution scheme for PIPD cases, by involving both processes of formal neutral evaluation and mediation. The scheme, if implemented, will enable a more efficient manner of resolving PIPD disputes in the Supreme Court.

The PIPD Committee continues to be involved in consultations by the Public Trustee's Office to discuss changes to the framework for motor accident compensation.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Willy Tay Boon Chong

CHAIRPERSON

Constance Margreat Paglar

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Lisa Sam Hui Min

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Abdul Halim bin Rosalan
 Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim
 Anjalli d/o Muniandy
 Bhargavan Sujatha
 Catherine Lim
 Jayaprakash s/o Thiyagarajan
 Kirpal Singh Sharma
 Lin Hui Yin Sharon
 Nirmala Ravindran
 Namasivayam Srinivasan
 Paul Yap Tai San
 Raphael Louis
 Renuka d/o Karuppan Chettiar
 Roger Yek Nai Hui
 Siow Jit Thong
 Shahira Binte Mohd Anuar
 Vivienne Kaur Sandhu

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

Probate Practice and Succession Planning

Goh Kok Yeow, Chairperson



Members of the Probate Practice and Succession Planning Committee

With a focus on matters relating to probate and administration as well as succession planning, the Probate Practice and Succession Planning Committee (the "Committee") has, for the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, been actively involved in a variety of activities. The main activities engaged in by the Committee are set out as follows:

1. Series of Probate Seminars


As with previous years, the Committee is in the midst of putting together a series of Probate Seminars for the current year. Scheduled to take place in August and September 2016, the seminars will touch on the solicitors' duties of care and the avoidance of conflict of interests in connection with acting in wills drafting and probate matters, rectification of wills and the recent amendments to the Mental Capacity Act. A seminar on Muslim Inheritance Law, conducted in conjunction with the Muslim Law Practice Committee, will kick off the series for 2016.

2. Quarterly Dialogues with the Family Justice Courts

The Committee continues to engage the Family Justice Courts in regular dialogues on matters relating to Rules and Practice Directions with regards to civil proceedings under the Probate and Administration Act as well as probate, succession, wills and related matters.

3. Representation on External Committees

Dr Gopalan Raman continues to represent 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.



2016

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

**Series of Probate Seminars:
Seminar on Muslim Inheritance Law**

25 August 2016, Thursday
4.00pm - 6.00pm
55 Market Street
#03-01, Conference Room 2
Singapore 048941

Eligible for SkillsFuture

REGISTER

*Allocation of seats is on a first-come, first-served basis.
Registration closes 18 August 2016 (Thursday), 12.00pm, or when all seats are filled*

ABOUT THIS SEMINAR

What is the position in Singapore with regard to Muslim inheritance and succession laws? What is the approach that has been taken by the civil courts in respect of matters involving Muslim inheritance and succession laws? Are there practical difficulties? Can these difficulties be reconciled? What are the ways in which a Muslim estate can be disposed of under Muslim law? What are the requirements? How do you draft the different documents? When do you take out a Grant of Probate and a Grant of Letters of Administration for a Muslim estate? What are the documents required for such an application?

The Muslim Law Practice Committee and the Probate Practice Committee of the Law Society of Singapore are proud to present this joint seminar on Muslim Inheritance Law, the first of the series of probate seminars.

Article 153 of the Singapore Constitution provides for the Legislature to make provision for regulating Muslim religious affairs. The Administration of Muslim Law Act (Cap. 3) was enacted for this purpose.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

This seminar is useful for practitioners and students who have an interest and/or are keen to know about Muslim inheritance law and its application in Singapore.

SPEAKERS

Ahmad Nizam Abbas – Director, Straits Law Practice LLC
(Chairperson, Muslim Law Practice Committee, The Law Society of Singapore)

Abdul Rahman B M H – Managing Director, Abdul Rahman Law Corporation
(Vice-Chairperson, Muslim Law Practice Committee, The Law Society of Singapore)

Hajjah Birte Mohamad – Sole Proprietor, Hajjah Mohamad & Co

For more information and to register, please click below:

DETAILS

REGISTER

Please indicate your "Expression of Interest" below if you are keen to attend the upcoming Series of Probate Seminars.

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

For enquiries, please contact us at cpd@lawsoc.org.sg or 6530 0211

Circular to members on Probate Seminar Series

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Goh Kok Yeow

CHAIRPERSON

Yap Lan Hiang Vicky

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Tito Shane Isaac

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

David Nayar

Dharmambal Shanti Jayaram

Dr Gopalan Raman

Goh Song Gek Alice

Haryadi Hadi

John Vincent

Kee Lay Lian

Lee Chiwi

Leon Kwong Wing

Loh Chiu Cheong Dennis

Patrick Tan Tse Chia

Poonam Mirchandani

Pradeep Kumar s/o Gobind

Sim Bock Eng

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

Publications

Malathi Das, Chairperson

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

1. Singapore Law Gazette

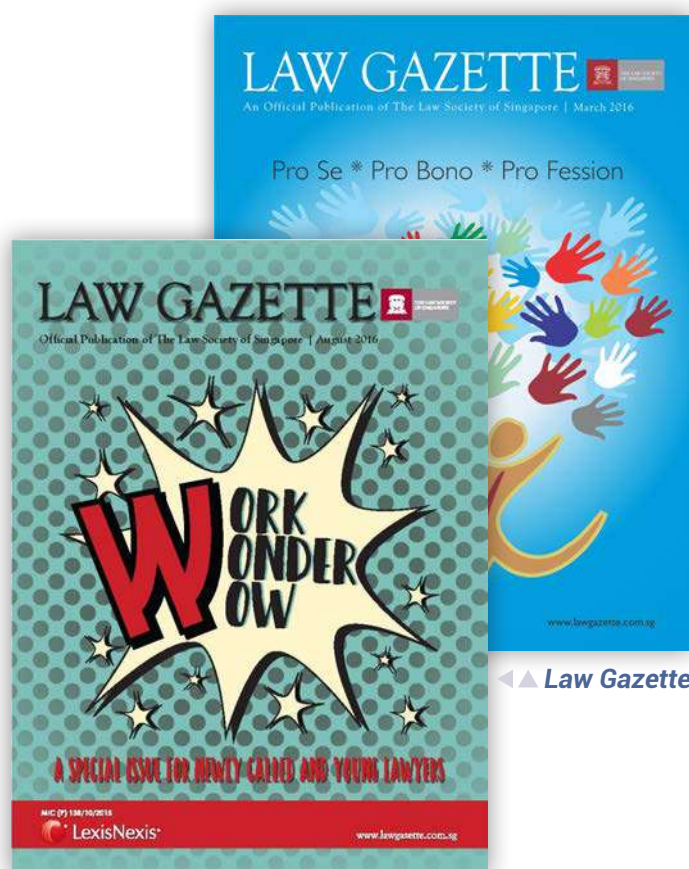
The Committee publishes the official monthly magazine of the Law Society, the Singapore Law Gazette, which is available both online and in print. The Committee not only assists in the commissioning, writing and proof-reading of each issue but also curates special thematic issues and comes up with the cover design and tagline for each issue. In the reporting period, we published a themed issue in October 2015 on the advancement of women in the legal profession. This particular issue was well received and 2 of the articles written by the President and the Chair of the Committee were given coverage in the Straits Times. In January 2016, we ran an issue on Succession Planning and in March 2016, we ran another thematic issue on Pro Bono work in the legal profession.

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 2 prizes last year for best feature article, including an award for the best feature by a young lawyer. We also published a shortlist of 4 articles that the Committee felt deserved special mention. The Committee, at the time of writing of this report, is undertaking the nominations for the 2016 awards. The Awards are judged by experienced volunteer judges from the judiciary, 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, we devoted the August issue of the Singapore Law Gazette to the newly called and young lawyers with a specially put together edition titled "Work, Wonder, Wow (WWW)" which included articles written by both young and senior lawyers who shared tips on surviving and thriving in practice. We are grateful to Law In Order for sponsoring an additional 1,000 copies of this issue for distribution to the newly called lawyers at the Mass Call.



◀▶ Law Gazette

4. Legal Writing Seminar

The Committee organised a seminar titled "Making the Point: Effective Legal Opinion Writing" on 17 September 2015. The speakers were Cameron Ford from the Committee, and Eric Chan of Shook Lin & Bok, and the session was chaired by Associate Professor Ruby Lee of NUS. We had a good turnout of about 60 participants. The next seminar will be held on 22 November 2016 on the topic of writing effective submissions.



Seminar on Making the Point: Effective Legal Opinion Writing

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 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 over 20 advertisers in 2016. 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 features a Singa Lawyer Lion dressed in lawyers' robes which the Law Society specially commissioned to raise funds for our Pro Bono Services Office. Singa Lawyer is joined by other Singa Lions produced by the Singapore Kindness Movement. The theme for this year's Report is inspired by the healthy pro bono culture that exists within the legal profession in Singapore.

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. With effect from September 2016, eJus News will be re-named Jus News in keeping with the evolution of language in technology.

9. Firm Closure Dissemination Service

The Committee continues to provide a service to assist law practices to disseminate their notices 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 been tasked to oversee the publication of a special commemorative coffee table book titled *Fiat Justitia: Fifty Years of the Law Society of Singapore*. The Society has commissioned Dr Kevin Tan to write the book which will be published in the third quarter of next year. It is intended that all practising members will be given a copy of the commemorative book. I particularly wish to thank the President and the Council as well as our members for their generous support of this milestone publication in terms of funding and

contribution of ideas. I also pay tribute to our Panel of Advisors for their advice and good counsel.

Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to my Co Vice-Chairs, Members and Advisors of the Committee for their creativity, enthusiasm, feedback, contributions and hard work in serving on this Committee. I am also grateful to our Publications Department comprising Sharmaine Lau and Shirin Kamsir, without whose meaningful and tireless service and support this Committee will not be able to carry out all that we do.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Malathi Das

CHAIRPERSON

Celeste Ang

CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Rajan Chettiar

CO VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Simran Kaur Toor

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Aileen Chua

Alicia Zhuang

Associate Professor David Tan (Advisor)

Benjamin Teo

Cameron Ford

Debby Lim

Dr Colin Ong

Dr William Wan (Advisor)

Evans Ng

Fong Wei Li

Janelene Chen

Kishan Pillay

Lee Hui Yi

Lye Huixian

Marcus Yip

Vincent Leow

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Sharmaine Lau

Public and International Law

Prakash Pillai, Chairperson

The Public and International Law Committee organised a seminar on 29 March 2016. The topic of the seminar was "Lessons from Interstate Arbitration: The Singapore/Malaysia Railway Case". The speakers were Ms Lucy Reed, Partner, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer and Ms Loretta Malintoppi, Of Counsel, Eversheds LLP. Mr Gary F. Bell, Associate Professor, Faculty of Law (NUS) was the moderator.

The seminar was attended by 51 participants and the feedback on the seminar was very positive.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Prakash Pillai

CHAIRPERSON

Michael Hwang, SC

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Paul Tan Beng Hwee

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Dierdre Grace Morgan

Emmanuel Duncan Chua

Evelyn Henning

Kevin Kwek Yiu Wing

Khng Yong-Ern Nathaniel (Resource Consultant)

Koh Junxiang

Lee Shi Yan

Loo Jing Xi Gloria

Mark Lewis Shan

Ooi Huey Hien

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Daniel Tan

Small Law Firms

*Lisa Sam Hui Min, Co-Chairperson
Michael S Chia, Co-Chairperson*



Members of the Small Law Firms Committee

For the reporting period of 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Small Law Firms Committee (the "Committee") has been involved in the following activities:

1. Series of Luncheons at the State Courts Bar Room

The Committee continued its collaboration with the State Courts & Family Justice 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 16 September 2015, 12 November 2015, 25 February 2016, 9 May 2016 and 28 July 2016 and the next two sessions have been scheduled for 8 September 2016 and 25 November 2016.

2. Seminars

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 first module of the course was conducted at the Law Society's premises from 30 to 31 August 2016 with the second module to be conducted from 7 to 9 September 2016.

The Committee also, together with the Information Technology Committee, supported the Law Society Technology Day held on 8 July 2016. The event provided practitioners with an insight into some of the systems, strategies, processes and platforms offered by the industry's legal technology providers.

3. Consultation

The Committee participated in consultation relating to the Mediation Bill 2016.

4. Tea Sessions for Small Law Firm Practitioners

The Committee organised its first tea session for small law firm practitioners located in the vicinity of Manhattan House at the SeaCare Hotel on 10 September 2015. This tea session aimed to reach out to small law firm practitioners and facilitate networking amongst small law firms as well as provide the Law Society with the opportunity to find out how greater assistance can be provided.

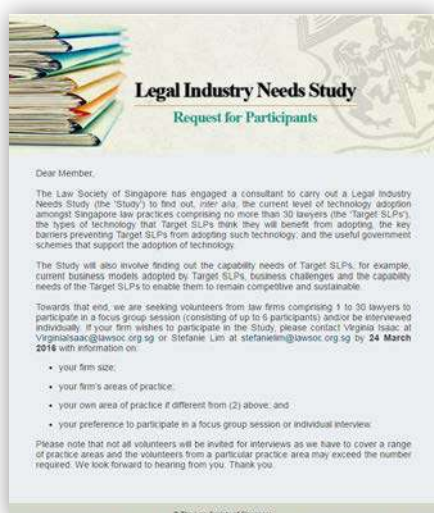
The practitioners were updated on the Committee's initiatives, the various Law Society welfare schemes available and provided feedback on issues that they faced. The Committee will be organising one to two tea sessions in the 3rd quarter of 2016 to further engage with the small law firm practitioners.

5. Phase 2 of the Data Repository of Precedents

This is a continuation of the Committee's initiative to provide small law firm practitioners with a resource database of sample precedents. The Committee decided to expand the scope and improve the pre-existing precedents currently in the member's library. Some of the precedents that will be uploaded onto the member's library include a statutory demand under Companies Act, non-disclosure agreement, constitution of a society, cease and desist letter for defamation and copyright infringement.

6. Legal Industry Needs Study

Some Committee members participated in the Legal Industry Needs Study, a project carried out by the Law Society to support the small and medium Singapore law practices. The study involved finding out the capabilities needs of these law practices to



Circular to members on Legal Industry Needs Study

enable them to remain competitive and sustainable, with the aim of creating awareness of the assistance programmes available to these law practices and assisting in the grant applications.

7. Others

The Committee was invited to attend dialogue sessions and meetings with the State Courts, Family Justice Courts, Ministry of Law and was consulted on various initiatives including the accreditation of construction lawyers.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lisa Sam Hui Min

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Michael S Chia

CO-CHAIRPERSON

Alvin Tan Kheng Ann

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Tien De Ming Grismond

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Anuradha d/o Krishan Chand Sharma

Boey Swee Siang

Bryan Manaf Ghows

Chia Boon Teck

Chia Swee Chye Kelvin

Daljit Kaur d/o Harbans Singh

Deepak Raja

Devadas Naidu

Edward Stanley Tay Wey Kok

Gloria James-Civetta

Ho Chye Hoon

Lim Joo Toon

Ng Keng Chye

Parwani Vijai Dharamdas

Satwant Singh s/o Sarban Singh

Serena Geraldine Lim

Sing Faith Joy

Tan Cheow Hin

Tan Chor Hoon Alice

Tan Heng Khim

Tan Jee Ming

Tay Ting Lan Susan

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Delphine Loo Tan

Social and Welfare

Hewage Ushan Saminda Premaratne, Chairperson

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 2015 to 31 August 2016 are as follows:

1. Organising the Law Society Annual Dinner & Dance 2015

The Law Society's Dinner & Dance was held at Marina Mandarin on Friday, 13 November 2015. The theme for the evening was, "Through the Years", as we joined in the celebrations of Singapore's Golden Jubilee. The Dinner was attended by close to 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 the very talented and humorous Rishi Budhrani. Aside from presiding over the whole Dinner & Dance, Rishi kept guests laughing and entertained throughout the evening with his stand-up comedy.

At the Dinner, 2 awards were presented – the C C Tan Award and Pro Bono Ambassador Award. The C C Tan Award for 2015 was conferred on Mrs Arfat Selvam while the Pro Bono Ambassador Award for 2015/2016 was conferred on Mr Thrumurgan s/o Ramapiram. Recipients of awards such as Volunteer of the Year, Contributor of the Year, Plaque of Appreciation and Friend of the Law Society were also invited to the dinner.

A booth was set up at the reception area by the Pro Bono Services Office ("PBSO") for members to adopt a limited edition Singa Lawyer collectible plush toy, which was produced to commemorate Singapore's Golden Jubilee. A silent ballot as well as the sale of charity tables were also organised to raise funds for PBSO.

2. Organising the DeepaRaya Luncheon 2015

In celebration of Deepavali and Hari Raya Haji, the DeepaRaya Luncheon 2015 was held on 5 November 2015 at the Bar Room of the State Courts and was well attended by more than 80 members.

3. Organising the Lunar New Year Luncheon 2016

Members of the Bar gathered at the State Courts' Bar Room on Thursday, 15 February 2016 for the traditional "lo-hei" and buffet lunch to celebrate and welcome the year of the monkey. The President also presented a condolence book and contributions from members and the ExCo to the family of the late Arthur Foo, our Bar Room Attendant.

◀ *Mrs Arfat Selvam receiving the C C Tan Award 2015 from the President*



Publicity for the 2016 Annual Dinner & Dance



4. Organising a Whiskey Appreciation Event

For this year's social activity, the SWC has decided to organise a Whiskey Appreciation Event. Members will find out for themselves the difference between Scotch Blended versus Single Malt and the session will end with an exciting blind tasting.

5. Organising the Annual Dinner & Dance 2016

The 2016 Dinner & Dance will be held on Friday, 11 November at Pan Pacific Singapore. This year the SWC has decided to work with a social enterprise and put in extensive effort to prepare for this much anticipated event in the legal profession's social calendar.

6. 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 the State Courts of Singapore.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Hewage Ushan Saminda Premaratne

CHAIRPERSON

Koh Li Qun, Kelvin

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Yeo Chuan Tat

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Alex Toh Jun Yong
Chua Wei Ping Cheryl
Chong Chia Chi
Elizabeth Toh Guek Li
Eio Huiting Sharleen (Yao Huiting)
Ho Wei Liang Sherman
Lim Qian Wen Amanda
Lim Chen Chen
Low Hong Quan
Thomas Choo Kong Yu
Tan Wei Ming
Thng Shin Min

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Shawn Toh

Solicitors' Accounts Rules

Gary Allen Pryke, Chairperson

In the year under review, the Solicitors' Accounts Rules Committee (the "Committee") received a number of queries on the application of the Legal Profession (Solicitors' Accounts) Rules ("SA Rules"). In one query a practitioner wanted to know what he should do if he issued a bill to his client, and the client objected to the bill being paid by set off against funds which had been deposited with the practitioner. The matter was referred to the Committee which concluded that the money should remain in the client account pending resolution of the client's objection.

The matter was further referred to Council for possible approval under Rule 8(1) of the SAR.

Rule 8(1) of the SAR reads as follows:

Money from client account – how drawn **8.**

– (1) Except as provided under rule 7, no money shall be drawn from a client account unless the Council upon an application made to it by the solicitor specifically authorises in writing such withdrawal.

(2) No money shall be drawn from a client account under rule 7(1)(a)(ii) or (iv), (c) or (d) except by –

- (a) a cheque drawn in favour of the solicitor; or
- (b) a transfer to a bank account in the name of the solicitor not being a client account.

(3) No money shall be drawn from a client account under rule 7(1)(c) or (d) by a cash cheque or a bearer cheque.

Council noted that:

1. In this case, there was a clear dispute over the bill as there was evidence that the client disputed that requisite work had been done;
2. An application to Court by the practitioner under section 113 of the LPA resulted in "no order" being made on the application;
3. The SAR sets out the framework for solicitors on the administration of the client account for holding and withdrawing client monies. They are not meant to be legislative rules that determine substantive contractual rights between solicitors and their clients.
4. As such, Rule 8 does not grant Council the power to override the contractual obligations and rights between a solicitor and his client *inter se*.

The practitioner was informed that the issue at hand pertains to the contractual obligations and rights between him and his client and that this had to be independently adjudicated upon through the Court or appropriate mediation channels.

In another matter, a practitioner wanted to know if he could arrange for inter-bank transfer of client account money from his law firm's bank account to the bank account of his client. The Committee sought clarification from the practitioner as to whether the transfer was intended to be by way of online banking (which is prohibited under the SAR) or by some other method whereby a written instruction would be given to the bank by the signatories to the law firm's client account (which is permitted under Rule 8(5) of the SAR.)

Last year, the Committee provided its views to Council on a proposal to amend Rule 2(2) of the Legal Profession (Deposit Interest) Rules. Council adopted the recommendations and made representations to lobby for the amendment.

The proposal for amendment was accepted by the Honourable the Chief Justice and it took effect from 1 December 2015. By virtue of the amendment, the threshold amount of \$5,000 referred to under the former Rule 2 of the Legal Profession (Deposit Interest) Rules was increased to \$20,000. Members now only need to deposit money received from a client in a fixed deposit account and account to that client for interest where the client's money held is more than \$20,000 at the time of receipt and it is known at that time that the sum will not be reduced below \$20,000 within a period of 4 months thereafter. For amounts received which are above \$5,000 but not more than \$20,000 and it is known at the time of receipt that the money will not be utilised within a period of 4 months, members may still opt to place the money in a fixed deposit account but it will not be mandatory to do so. If it is put in fixed deposit, the solicitor must account to the client for the interest earned.

The Committee was also engaged in the following activities:

- A representative from the Committee participated as a panel speaker in the annual Mandatory Book-Keeper's course organised by the Law Society.
- The Committee also updated the Law Society's Guide to the SA Rules (the "Guide") which was rolled out for members in May last year. The Guide is available to members at <http://www.lawsociety.org.sg/forMembers/ResourceCentre/EShop/Store.aspx>. The Committee has also compiled guidance notes 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 is being updated on an on-going basis.

Guide to Solicitors' Accounts



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Gary Allen Pryke

CHAIRPERSON

Chew Kei-Jin

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Chia Soo Michael

Lim Hui Bian Vivienne

Low Chai Chong

Oh Kim Heoh Mimi

See Chern Yang

Tan Tse Chia Patrick

Yap Teong Liang

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Ambika Rajendram

Sports

Chan Lai Foong, Chairperson

The Sports Committee strives to build good relations and camaraderie amongst members of the Bar and other legal fraternity members including the Judiciary, legal officers, academia as well as undergraduates through social interaction at sporting events.

For the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Sports Committee organised or participated in the following sporting events:

1. The Inter-Professional Games ("IPG") 2015 was held from August 2015 to 24 October 2015 with participation from the Law Society of Singapore, Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants, Singapore Medical Association, Institution of Engineers, Singapore Institute of Surveyors and Valuers and Singapore Institute of Architects. The sports played were Badminton, Basketball, Bowling, Chess, Golf, Netball, Pool, Soccer, Squash, Table Tennis, Tennis and Volleyball. The Institute of Singapore Chartered Accountants emerged as the champion for IPG.
2. The Annual Singapore–Penang Football Match was held in Penang on 14 November 2015. Team Singapore won with a score of 5–1.
3. The Annual Piala Pala 9-Pin Bowling Tournament 2015 was held on 21 November 2015 at West Bowl. Team 36x (Dorothy Tay, Thean Chow Leong, Teo Keng Siang) emerged victorious whilst Team SC 1 (John Ng, Phelycia Chan, Karen Lin) and Drew & Napier Team 3 (Meryl Koh, Yap Hao Jin, Javier Yeo) came in second and third respectively.
4. The Law Society hosted the Annual Johore Bar–Law Society Games on 28 November 2015 and the sports played were Badminton, Basketball, Soccer and Pool. The Law Society emerged the champion.
5. The Law Fraternity Games comprising teams from the Law Society of Singapore and law students from the National University of Singapore ("NUS") and Singapore Management University ("SMU") took place on 16 and 17 January 2016. The Law Society hosted a buffet reception at the closing dinner of the Games. Law Society came in first, with NUS and SMU coming in second and third respectively.

Brandon Chung, member of the Sports Committee, receiving the Law Fraternity Games championship trophy from Chan Lai Foong



6. The Law Society Badminton team played friendly matches with KPMG Badminton team on 15 April 2016. Both teams ended in a draw.
7. The 2016 Malaysia-Singapore Bench & Bar Games was held from 29 April to 1 May 2016 in Kuantan, hosted by the Pahang Bar Committee. Sixteen competitive sports and two non-competitive sports were competed by Team Singapore and Team Malaysia. Malaysia won the Judges' Cup, with a score of 10.5 to 5.5. We look forward to hosting the 2017 Bench & Bar Games to be held from 28 April to 30 April 2017, and preparations are already under way.
8. The local Bench & Bar Games where Badminton is contested between members of the Bench and Bar was held on 16 July 2016. Both teams emerged with a draw in scores.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chan Lai Foong

CHAIRPERSON

Tan Xu Teng

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Lisa Sam Hui Min

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Aylwin Tan Wee En
 Bala Chandran s/o A Kandiah
 Chung Weijian Brandon Ian
 Chiam Tao Koon
 Chen Yixin Edith
 Dayne Ho Chung Wei
 Elizabeth Toh Guek Li (until 15 March 2016)
 Felix Lee Shih Yang
 Jacintha Thannimalai
 Liew Teck Meng
 Laura Ann Liew Ai Ling (until 13 June 2016)
 Lee Hock Yin Samuel
 Liow Wang Wu Joseph
 Lee Terk Yang
 Lim Siew Kuan
 Muhamad Imaduddien Bin Abdul Karim
 Moiz Haider Sithawalla (Cricket Convenor)
 Mannar Rajkumar
 Nakoorsa Bin Abdul Kadir
 Nurul Nordin
 Norman Teo
 Ong Shu-Wen
 Ravin Periasamy
 Richard Arthur Mark Stapley Oh
 Teng Zi Ping Kemmy
 Toh Hui Lin Desiree
 Valmiki C Nair
 Wee Heng Yi Adrian
 Wong Woon Kwong
 Wong Foong Wee

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Shawn Toh



Heads of Delegation (left to right): Justice Chao Hick Tin, Judge of Appeal, Singapore and Tun Arifin bin Zakaria, Chief Justice of Malaysia

Young Lawyers

Wong Yi, Chairperson



Members of the Young Lawyers Committee

The Young Lawyers Committee (the "YLC") strives to address the needs and concerns of members in the "Junior Category" i.e. those with less than 7 years of experience in practice, which constitutes a large sector of the membership.

Each month, the YLC contributed to a monthly column in the Singapore Law Gazette titled "The Young Lawyer" which includes "Amicus Agony" which addresses the various concerns of young practitioners relating to the realities of legal practice. The monthly column also includes articles on topics outside of legal practice.

As a continuing tradition and to welcome the newest members to the legal profession, the YLC hosted the Mass Call Receptions on 26 August 2016 and 27 August 2016 at the Supreme Court. The YLC also sponsored a photo booth for the newly called lawyers to commemorate Mass Call 2016.

The YLC embarked on a new initiative to reach out to Junior Colleges in Singapore and Temasek Polytechnic (which runs the Diploma in Law course)

to share with students on law as a career at career fairs in view that law is one of the popular courses in Universities. Between March to July 2016, members of the YLC have participated in career fairs at Pioneer Junior College, Bukit Panjang Government High School, Serangoon Junior College, Catholic Junior College and Temasek Polytechnic. The YLC hopes to reach out to more Junior Colleges in 2017.

To encourage more young lawyers to attend overseas conferences, the Law Society had in early 2016 inaugurated a new sponsorship scheme to sponsor up to 4 young lawyers per year to attend international legal conferences organised by the International Bar Association, Inter-Pacific Bar Association ("IPBA") or LAWASIA. The next phase of applications for the sponsorship will open in 2017. The YLC wishes to put on record its special gratitude to the Council for the tremendous support in this regard.

Last but not least, the YLC would like to express its appreciation to all who have been supportive of YLC initiatives.



Tan Wei Ming & Aileen Chua at Pioneer JC



Christine Low at Bukit Panjang Government High School



Christine Low & John Lo at Catholic JC



Laurelle He & Wong Yi at Serangoon JC



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Wong Yi

CHAIRPERSON

Choo Zheng Xi

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Nicholas Thio Syn Wei

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Abigail Naomi Dawes
Ashok Kumar Rai
Chua Siew Ling Aileen
Dierdre Grace Morgan
Hany Soh Hui Bin
He Yanying Laurelle
Javern Sim Jun Yan (Shen Junyan)
Lo Ying Xi John
Low Hong Quan
Low Ying Li Christine
Mifiona Quah
Nandhu
Os Agarwal
Sui Yi Siong
Tan Wei Ming
Terence Tan Wee Kio
Tham Keng Yue Gerald
Vikram Ranjan Ramasamy
Yeo Kuei Ya, Cindy

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Shawn Toh

ENHANCING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS



Admissions

Christopher Anand s/o Daniel, Chairperson

This report is in respect of the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016.

1. Admission of Advocates and Solicitors

A total of 695 applicants were admitted as advocates and solicitors of the Supreme Court of Singapore compared to 662 applicants who were admitted during the last reporting period. The Mass Call was held over 3 consecutive sessions on 26 August 2016 and 27 August 2016 at the Supreme Court Auditorium. 509 applicants were admitted. There were 535 applicants admitted in the 22 August 2015 Mass Call.

2. Part-Call Applications

There were 67 applications for part-call for this reporting period, compared to 47 applications during the last reporting period. Out of the 67 applications, 63 were allowed and 4 were dismissed by the High Court. The dismissal was due to the practice trainees' supervising solicitors were late for the hearing.

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

In the present reporting period, the Committee has considered 2 applications for the ad hoc admission of Queen's Counsel ("QC") under the provisions of section 15(1) of the Legal Profession Act.

The first application was for the ad hoc admission of Samuel Sherratt Wordsworth, QC (OS No. 643/2016), which was heard by Justice Steven Chong on 2 August 2016 and the application was allowed on 29 August 2016.

The other application was for the ad hoc admission of Toby Thomas Landau, QC (OS No. 752/2016). The hearing for the application is fixed on 9 September 2016.

4. 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 one of the applications, the applicant filed a fresh application after the previous application was dismissed by Judicial Commissioner Chua Lee Ming in view that the prospective employee made a complaint against her former employer to the Society and that the allegations that have been made and responded to by the former employer. The hearing for the application is scheduled on 14 September 2016, before Judicial Commissioner Chua Lee Ming.

The other application is pending and the hearing for the application is fixed on 8 September 2016.



Mass Call 2016

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Christopher Anand s/o Daniel

CHAIRPERSON

Rajan Sanjiv Kumar

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Tito Shane Isaac

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Chan Hian Young

Nair Suresh Sukumaran

Pillai Pradeep G

Quek Hui Kee Jasmine

Saw Seang Kuan

Tan Teck San Kelvin

Tan Teik Yu Mark

Tham Wei Chern

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Daniel Tan

Anti-Money Laundering

Surenthiraraj s/o Sauntharajah, Chairperson

In November 2015, the Financial Action Task Force ("FATF") conducted its mutual evaluation exercise in Singapore. This exercise involved a number of industries, including the legal sector. Both the Law Society (regulatory body) and members of the legal profession were interviewed by FATF on the measures taken by their law practices in respect of addressing the risks of money laundering and financing of terrorism. The FATF report is expected to be published and circulated in the third quarter of 2016. The Committee also increased its outreach measures of the new AML legislation by organising additional AML seminars in August and November 2015. The Law Society carried out its yearly AML inspections of law practices between September and October 2015. The results of these inspections was positive. The law practices involved in the inspections demonstrated a good awareness of the new AML legislation which came into effect in May 2015.

In May 2016, the Committee Chairperson delivered a talk to the Small Law Firms Committee at the State Courts on lawyers fulfilling their AML obligations. In May 2016, the Committee decided to conduct an industry wide survey to determine which law practices had a higher risk of potentially being used by clients for money laundering purposes. In June 2016, the online AML survey was disseminated to all law practices in Singapore. The response rate of the survey was encouraging. From the survey results, the Committee applied a risk-based approach to select a number of law practices to be inspected in 2016, pursuant to section 70F of the Legal Profession Act. The Committee also decided that it was necessary to significantly increase the volume of AML inspections and a comprehensive inspection

plan was drawn up. This is consistent with the approach taken by other regulatory bodies which are stepping up their regulatory checks in this area.



Circular to members on an Anti-Money Laundering Survey

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Surenthiraraj s/o Sauntharajah

CHAIRPERSON

Low Chai Chong

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Lim Seng Siew

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Chia Boon Teck
 Foo Wen Ying Esther
 Joanna Michelle Cooper
 K Muralidharan Pillai
 Moira Khaw Phaik Geok
 Quek Zheng An @ Quek Zheng An Zack
 Stephen Revell
 Sundareswara Sharma
 Tan Kay Kheng

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Daniel Tan

Inquiries into Inadequate Professional Services

This report covers the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016. During this period the Law Society (the "Society") received 60 fresh complaints of inadequate professional services. These complaints are under section 75B of the Legal Profession Act (the "Act").

Of the fresh complaints, 4 were rejected because they did not fall within the relevant section. Three could not be processed because no contact particulars were provided. These 3 complaints were only intended to put the Society on notice and no action was required.

Three complaints were withdrawn as the complainants had intended some other form of relief, i.e, they wanted variation of Court orders, a review of settlement amounts or a reduction of the solicitor's bills.

Six complaints were stayed as the complainants had also made a complaint under section 85(1) of the Act. Current protocol requires that the section 85(1) complaint be concluded before the section 75B complaint be dealt with.

One complainant informed the Society that details of the complaint will only be provided after taxation of the solicitor's bill.

Of the remaining fresh complaints, 8 complaints are being resolved between the solicitor and the complainant directly, 15 referred to Council and the balance are awaiting better particulars from the complainants. Such particulars are required to properly identify the proper heads of complaint under section 75B. Complainants are advised that a section

75B complaint is not intended to resolve disputes over their solicitor's costs. They are advised such disputes can be resolved through mediation using the Society's Cost Dispute Resolve Scheme. 25% of the complaints received are about costs disputes.

The Committee has noted an increase of 10% of complaints that relate to family law matters. The complaints mainly concern unhappiness over solicitor's costs or over unrealised expectations as to the maintenance orders sought.

Of the complaints referred to Council, 13 complaints were dismissed as they did not show any prima facie case of inadequate professional services.

Mediations Conducted from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016

For the relevant period, 1 mediation was scheduled but had to be vacated to October 2016 as the complainant was stationed overseas.

Investigative Tribunals Appointed from 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015

An Investigative Tribunal was appointed in June 2016 and the inquiry is ongoing.

Report of the Inquiry Panel

Philip Jeyaretnam, SC, Chairperson

This Report covers the period 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016.

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

ADVOCATES & SOLICITORS

The following appointees' term will expire on 30 November 2017:

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 Oh Buong Yu May
14. Mr Ee Chong Nam, Andrew
15. Mr Woo Tchi Chu
16. Mr Tan Jin Hwee
17. Ms Maria Lam Sek Fah (Maria Tham)
18. Mr Sim Yong Chan
19. Mr Wee Chow Sing Patrick
20. Mr Prabhakaran Nair
21. Mr Ragbir Singh s/o Ram Singh Bajwa
22. Mr Tan Denis
23. Mr Chandra Mohan K Nair
24. Mr Madan Assomull
25. Mr Peter Chong Siong Siang
26. Mdm Ho Puck Chin Caroline
27. Mr Seah Teck Kim, Kim
28. Mr Bernard Doray
29. Ms Chew Gek Tee Sally
30. Mr Leng Siew Wei Aloysius
31. Ms Woon Lai Keng (Julie)
32. Mr Quek Mong Hua
33. Mr Sarjit Singh s/o Bhagwan Singh
34. Mr Yuen Simon
35. Mr Steven Seah Seow Kang
36. Mr Raymond Chan
37. Mr Tan Keok Heng George
38. Ms Teo Siew Kim Gwendoline
39. Mr Krishnan Sivanandam
40. Mr Chew Swee Leng
41. Mrs Gina Lee-Wan
42. Mr Tay Keow Ming
43. Mr Lee Han Tiong
44. Ms Tan Lay Keng
45. Mr Mahtani Naresh Murlidhar
46. Mr Yang Yung Chong
47. Mr John Ng Lee Chye
48. Mr Cheong Tuck Meng
49. Ms See Siew Heok Jo-Ann
50. Mr Lee Kuen Yip
51. Mr Koh Boon Hai
52. Mr Lim Chen Thor Jason
53. Mr Gill Dedar Singh
54. Mdm Susan Mary De Silva
55. Mr Alban Kang Choon Hwee
56. Ms Josephine Low Miew Yin
57. Mr Ong Kian Wei Timothy
58. Mr Chua Leong Hin
59. Mr Tan Kheng Ann Alvin
60. Ms Wong Lai Keen

61. Mr Tan Jee Ming
62. Mr David Yeow
63. Mr Selva Kumara Naidu
64. Mr Tan Lam Siong
65. Mr Phua Siow Choon
66. Mr Michael Moey Chin Woon
67. Mr Abdul Jalil Bin Muhammad Tahir
68. Mr Chuang Wei Ping
69. Mr Lee Teck Hai
70. Mr Adrian Ee Hock Hoe
71. Mr Herman Jeremiah
72. Ms Yip Wai Ping Annabelle
73. Mr Goh Kok Yeow
74. Mr Muthu Kumaran s/o Muthu Santhana Krishnan
75. Mr Ravindran s/o Muthucumarasamy
76. Mr Chan Hian Young
77. Mr Thomas Tan Boon Yong
78. Ms Yee May Kuen Peggy Sarah
79. Mr John Ng Puay Hong
80. Ms Chen Wen Woan Angela
81. Mdm Sheena Rohini Jacob
82. Mr Lim Tat
83. Mr James Leslie Ponniah
84. Ms Lalita Chelliah
85. Mr Lim Chong Boon
86. Mr Lim Soo Peng
87. Mr Ravendra Krishnasamy
88. Mr Soh Leong Kiat Anthony
89. Mr Brown Anthony Pereira
90. Mr Salem Bin Mohamed Ibrahim
91. Mr Kok Hei Mun Jonathan
92. Mr Tan Lay Tiong Anthony
93. Mr Patrick Ang Peng Koon
94. Mr Chong Yee Leong
95. Mdm Elaine Beh Pur-Lin
96. Mr Tan Kay Kheng
97. Mr Tiwary Ramesh Chandr
98. Mr Abdur Raheem Bin Mohd Iqbal
99. Mr Yeo Chuan Seng Victor
100. Mdm Zahara Binte Bakar
101. Mr Surenthiraraj Sauntharajah
102. Mdm Teo Kwee Yee (Claudia)
103. Mr Lawrence Lee Mun Kong
104. Ms Yogarajah Yoga Sharmini
105. Mr Bernie Neo Ho Guan
106. Ms Lisa Theng Siew Lian
107. Ms Marian Ho Wui Mee
108. Mr Chan Wai Mun
109. Mr Goh Siong Pheck Francis
110. Mr Seah Eng Chee Rupert
111. Mr Chong Kuan Keong
112. Mr P Padman
113. Ms See Tow Soo Ling
114. Mr Christopher Woo Yin Loong
115. Ms Wong Hur Yui
116. Mr Foo Maw Shen
117. Mr Chandra Mohan Rethnam
118. Mr Chooi Yue Wai Kenny
119. Mr Yeo Soo Mong Tony
120. Ms Chan Shu Fung Elaine
121. Mr Lee Wei Yung
122. Ms Lee Mong Jen
123. Mr Bernard Sahagar s/o Tanggavelu
124. Ms Nirmala Ravindran
125. Ms Kanyakumari d/o Veerasamy
126. Mr Eu Hai Meng
127. Mr Hue Kuan Chen Wilson
128. Mr Jason Chan Kwok Chuan
129. Mr Amolat Singh
130. Mr Liow Wang Wu Joseph
131. Mr Anparasan s/o Kamachi
132. Mr Parwani Vijai Dharamdas
133. Mr Soh Kar Liang
134. Mr Leck Kwang Hwee Andy
135. Mr Wai Chee Leong Ronnie
136. Mr Abdul Salim Ahmed Ibrahim
137. Ms Lim Lay Choo Jennifer
138. Mr Loh Eu Tse Derek
139. Mr Loke Siew Meng
140. Mr Sandrasegara Manoj Pillay
141. Mr Andrew Wu Chih Wei
142. Mrs Stefanie Yuen Thio
143. Ms Christine Sekhon
144. Mdm Wong Su-Hsien Audrey
145. Mdm Yeow Tin Tin Margaret
146. Mr Rajesh Sreenivasan
147. Mr Edwin Lee Peng Khoon
148. Mr Low Cheong Yeow
149. Ms Julia Yeo Heem Lain
150. Mr Chen Nan Chung Burton
151. Mr Jonathan Lim Tiek Beng

152. Mr Renganathan Nandakumar
153. Mr Zaminder Singh Gill
154. Mr Christopher Anand s/o Daniel
155. Mr Tan Teck San Kelvin
156. Mr Lawrence Tan Aik Leng
157. Mr Thomas John
158. Ms Ho Kim Foong
159. Ms Leow Tze Hoon Christabel
160. Mr Philip Fong Yeng Fatt
161. Mr Tang Chi Loong
162. Mr Chey Cheng Chwen Anthony
163. Mr Cosmas Stephen Gomez
164. Mr Nandakumar Ponniya
165. Mr Lim U Wei Ralph Howard
166. Mr Bernard Chiu Hsu-Hwee
167. Mr Gong Chin Nam
168. Mr Ng Chee Weng, Max
169. Mr Yeo Kim Hai Patrick
170. Mr Goh Chye Hock Joseph
171. Mr K Muralitharany
172. Mr Ang Wee Tiong
173. Ms Lam Shiao Ning
174. Mr Yeo Khee Chye Raymond
175. Mr Michael Low Wan Kwong
176. Ms Subashini d/o Narayanasamy
177. Mr Siraj Omar
178. Mr Khaira Akramjeet Singh
179. Mr Ng Kim Beng
180. Mr Gan Kian Koon Gerry
181. Mr Henry Heng Gwee Nam
182. Mr Pillai Pradeep G
183. Mr Lim Choon How
184. Mr Cheong Chee Min
185. Ms Choo Poh Hua Josephine
186. Mr Derek Tan Jet Wah
187. Mr Eusuff Ali s/o N B M Mohamed Kassim
188. Mr Lem Jit Min Andy
189. Mr Chen Chee Yen
190. Mr Samuel Seow Theng Beng
191. Mr Jeeva Arul Joethy
192. Mr Chan Kah Keen Melvin
193. Mr Namasivayam Srinivasan
194. Mr Say Chin Phang Sean
195. Mr Andrew Ho Yew Cheng
196. Mr Christopher Chong Chi Chuin

197. Mr Kendall Tan Chuan Bing
198. Ms Lau Yee Wan Sharon
199. Mdm Lee Su Yee
200. Mr Low Yew Shen
201. Mr Patrick Tan Tse Chia
202. Mr Chan Jin Han
203. Mr Adrian Wong Soon Peng
204. Mr Ong Sing Huat (Nick)
205. Mr Chia Peng Kiat Kenneth
206. Mr Chan Wei Meng
207. Mr Eugene Singarajah Thuraisingam
208. Ms Phang Sui Choon (Michelle)
209. Mr Yee Weng Wai Bernard
210. Ms Tsing Jenny
211. Mr Desmond Tan Yen Hau
212. Mr Raymond Lam Kuo Wei
213. Mr Sim Chong
214. Mr Melvin See Hsien Huei
215. Mr Ho Ying Ming
216. Mdm Cheng Su Yin Judy
217. Mr Edmund Eng Zixuan
218. Ms Loh Jen Wei
219. Mr Dennis Chua Soon Chai
220. Ms Lim Chen Chen
221. Mr Mark Jerome Seah Wei Hsien
222. Ms Rajan Menon Smitha
223. Ms Tay Hong Ling Mabel
224. Mr Arvind Daas Naaidu
225. Ms Lim Hui Ying
226. Ms Soh Ean Leng Angeline

The following appointees' term expired on 30 November 2015:

1. Mr Ajinderpal Singh
2. Ms Amarjit Kour D/O Balwant Singh
3. Mr Chan Chee Pew
4. Mr Chan Chin Ling
5. Mr Cheah Kok Lim (passed away)
6. Mr Chim Hou Yan
7. Ms Dawn Tan Ly-Ru
8. Mr Goh Aik Chew
9. Mr Govindarajulu Asokan
10. Mdm Helen Tan Cheng Hoong
11. Mr Howard Cheam Heng Haw

12. Ms Juliet Ang
13. Mr Khor Guan Yu Gerald
14. Mr Leong Yew Kee Charles
15. Mr Liew Teck Huat
16. Mr Lim Ghim Siew Henry
17. Mr Lim Tiang Yao
18. Ms Lim Yen Lan
19. Mr Marican Abdul Rahim
20. Mr Muthu Arusu Murugayair
21. Mr Noor Mohamed Marican
22. Mr Prem Kumar Gurbani
23. Mr Rai Shriniwas
24. Mr Seah Sheng Yong
25. Ms Seet Siok Lin Noelle
26. Ms Serena Lee Chooi Li
27. Mr Tan Lay Pheng
28. Ms Tan Siew Wei Cheryl
29. Mr Tay Seong Chee Simon
30. Mr Teo Chee Seng
31. Mr Vignesh Napoleon
32. Mr Yap Lip Sin Andrew
33. Mr Yuen Pei Lur Perry

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

REGULATED FOREIGN LAWYERS

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

1. Mr Alan Joseph Dickson
2. Mr Alexander George Shepherd
3. Mr Andrew Jonathan Brereton
4. Mr Andrew Robert Schleider
5. Mr Arnold Iur Gerscha
6. Mr Barry Lewis Irwin
7. Mr Barrye Langhorne Wall
8. Mr Benjamin Giaretta
9. Mr Benjamin Jonathan Rose

10. Mr Bruce Reid Schulberg
11. Mr Charles Douglas Ball
12. Mr David Harris Zemans
13. Mr David Lionel Barwise
14. Mr David William Platt
15. Ms Dominique Lucie Rondest Ép. Lombardi
16. Mr Fernando Gandioli
17. Mr Gregory Robert Salathe
18. Mr Henry David Nigel Goodwin
19. Mr Iain Melcolm Sharp
20. Mr Jai Pathak
21. Mr Jamie Edward Harrison
22. Mr Jay Frederick Krause
23. Mr John Nels Viverito
24. Mr Joseph He Jun
25. Mr Kai-Niklas Anton Schneider
26. Mr Kent Napier Phillips
27. Mr Kevin Robert Owen
28. Mr Khai Minh Dang
29. Mr Ko Hanamizu
30. Mr Marcus William Davidson Hinkley
31. Mr Michael Kelly Malone
32. Mr Nicholas Michael Benedict G Hanna
33. Mr Peter Megens
34. Mr Philip James Badge
35. Mr Philip Winston Lee
36. Mr Philippe Pierre Borens
37. Ms Peng Pheng Lim
38. Mr Rahul Guptan
39. Mr Rajiv Gupta
40. Mr Robert Thomas Palmer
41. Mr Rooman Richards Bundy
42. Mr Saugata Mukherjee
43. Mr Simon James Plowright Petch
44. Mr Stephen Palmer Adams
45. Mr Takeshi Komatsu
46. Mr William Richard Kirschner
47. Ms Yingying Li

LAY PERSONS

The following appointees' term will expire on 14 December 2017:

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. Dr 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 14 April 2018:

1. Mr Adrian Soh
2. Asst Prof Alvin See Wei-Liang
3. Mr Andy Tan Chye Guan
4. Ms Anju Patwardhan
5. Prof Chiew Sing Ping
6. Mr Chua How Kiat
7. Mr Clarence Ting
8. Assoc Prof Daniel William Puchniak
9. Mr Ding Hock Chai
10. Assoc Prof Gary Bell
11. Mr Han Liang Siew, Louis
12. Assoc Prof Henry Gao

13. Prof Ho Yew Kee
14. Prof James Ernest Penner
15. Ms Joanne Lim
16. Mr John Lim Geok Peng
17. Ms Kuan Li Li
18. Mr Lim Boon Cheng
19. Mr Lim Kim Cheong
20. Er. Lim Peng Hong
21. Mr Lim Thien Su Gerald
22. Dr Loke Chi Wei Peter
23. Mr Ooi Hoe Yang (Danny)
24. Mr Rohan Kamis
25. Ms Sirikit Oh
26. Assoc Prof Stephen Bull
27. Mr Tan Chor Sen (Christopher)
28. Mr Tan How Chuan (Sam)
29. Mr Tan See Chee
30. Dr Tan Teng Hooi
31. Dr Tan Yuen Lan, Diana
32. Prof Thio Li-ann
33. Mr Thomas Sit Kwok Wing
34. Er. Tong Chi Wai
35. Asst Prof Umakanth Varottil
36. Assoc Prof Wang Jiangyu
37. Mr Willie Cheng
38. Dr Wong Chiang Yin
39. Ms Wong Lai Ping
40. Dr Yeo Khee Quan

The following appointees' term expired on 14 April 2016:

1. Dr Abdul Razakjr Bin Omar
2. Dr Christopher Chen Chao-Hung
3. Practice Assoc Prof Ian MacDuff
4. Ms Julia Tay Swan Choo
5. Mr Oh Cheng Kwee, Johnny
6. Mr Yong Cho Choon James

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. Ms Carrie Chan Su-Lin
9. Mr Chan Wang Ho
10. Ms Charlene Tay Mei Woon
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. Mr Daniel Koh Poh Leong
21. Ms Danielle Yeow Ping Lin
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. Mr Eddy Tham Tong Kong
27. Ms Elena Yeo Ju-Lan
28. Mr Eugene Lee Yee Leng
29. Mr Eugene Teo Weng Kuan
30. Mr Francis Ng Yong Kiat
31. Mr Gilbert Low Teik Seang
32. Mr Gnanasighamani Kannan
33. Ms Hamidah Bte Ibrahim
34. Mr Han Ming Kuang
35. Ms Hee Mee Lin
36. Mr Imran Bin Abdul Hamid
37. Mr Ivan Chua Boon Chwee
38. Mr James Elisha Lee Han Leong
39. Ms Janet Wang Lan Jee
40. Ms Janice Wong Shi Hui
41. Ms Jasbendar Kaur
42. Mr Jason Tan Theng Kok
43. Ms Jasvender Kaur
44. Ms Jean Chan Lay Koon
45. Mr Jeyendran s/o Jeyapal
46. Mr John Ng
47. Mrs Joyce Chao Suling
48. Ms Joyce Low Wei Lin
49. Ms Kamalambigai Ponnampalam
50. Ms Kan Shuk Weng
51. Ms Karen Loh Pei Hsien
52. Ms Kathryn Low Lye Fong
53. Mr Kessler Soh Boon Leng

54. Mr Kevin Ng Choong Yeong
55. Mr Lau Wing Yum
56. Ms Laura Lau Chin Yui
57. Mr Lee Cheow Han
58. Mr Lee Chuan Huei
59. Mr Lee Jwee Nguan
60. Mr Lee Sing Lit
61. Ms Lee Yean-Lin
62. Mrs Lee-Khoo Poh Choo
63. Mr Leonard Goh Choon Hian
64. Mr Leong Kwang Ian
65. Ms Lim Jen Hui
66. Mrs Lim Su Ching
67. Mr Lim Yew Jin
68. Mr Louis Agnelo D'Souza
69. Mr Luke Tan Loke Yong
70. Ms Lynette Yap Beng Lyn
71. Mr Marcus Song Ee Pin
72. Mr Mark Anand Jayaratnam
73. Mr Mark Tay Swee Keng
74. Mr Marvin Bay Boon Teck
75. Ms May Lucia Mesenas
76. Ms Miranda Yeo Eng Joo
77. Mr Mohamed Faizal s/o Mohamed Abdul Kadir
78. Ms Nor'ashikin Bte Samdin
79. Mr Ong Chin Heng
80. Ms Ong Luan Tze
81. Mr Ow Yong Tuck Leong
82. Mr Paul Chia Kim Huat
83. Mr Phang Hsiao Chung
84. Mr Phua Wee Chuan
85. Ms Ravneet Kaur
86. Mr Reynard Cheok Yu-Liang
87. Mr Ronald Gwee Tiong Kee
88. Ms Salina Bte Ishak
89. Ms Sandra Looi Ai Lin
90. Mrs Shahla Iqbal
91. Ms Shahrinah Bte Abdol Salam
92. Mr Shaiffudin Bin Saruwan
93. Ms Sharon Ong Su Min
94. Mr Shawn Ho Hsi Ming
95. Ms Shobha Gopalakrishnan Nair
96. Mr Soh Kee Bun
97. Mr Sowaran Singh
98. Mr Sunari Bin Kateni
99. Ms Suriakumari d/o Sidambaram
100. Mr Tan Jen Tse

101. Ms Tan Peck Cheng
102. Mr Teo Guan Siew
103. Mr Terence Chua Seng Leng
104. Mr Terence Ong
105. Ms Toh Hwee Lian
106. Mr Toh Shin Hao
107. Mr Toh Yung Cheong
108. Mrs Wendy Chang Mun Lin
109. Ms Wong Choon Ning
110. Mr Wong Kok Weng
111. Ms Wong Li Tein

Active Review Committees Between 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016

As at 1 September 2015, there were 10 cases pending from the previous review year and 98 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 108 cases, the results are as follows:

- 46 cases were dismissed completely;
- 40 cases were fully recommended for further investigation by an Inquiry Committee;
- 14 cases contained both a direction for dismissal for some complaints and a recommendation for further investigation for the rest by an Inquiry Committee;
- 1 case was withdrawn by the Complainant; and
- 7 cases are still pending as at 31 August 2016.

Active Inquiry Committees Between 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016

As at 1 September 2015, there were 16 cases pending from the previous review year. To date, 50 Inquiry Committees have been constituted to look into the complaints which have been referred by the Review Committees during this review year. 52 Inquiry Committees have completed their investigations and the results are as follows:

- 26 cases were dismissed;
- 12 cases were recommended for warnings, reprimand or imposition of penalties;
- 9 cases were referred for formal investigation by the Disciplinary Tribunal; and
- 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. 13 cases are pending as at 31 August 2016.

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

This page is intentionally left blank.



SERVING THE COMMUNITY

Compensation Fund

Peter Chong Siong Siang, Chairperson



Members of the Compensation Fund Committee

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 applications arising from the dishonesty of Zulkifli Bin Amin reported earlier continue to remain pending as the claimants have yet to provide

particulars of information requested to support these applications.

One pending application reported last year, arising from the dishonesty of Mustaffa Bin Abu Bakar was considered by the Committee when the applicant replied through her Member of Parliament. However the claimant did not provide any supporting documents to her claim. After the matter was considered by the Committee, the Committee directed the Secretariat to make an enquiry from another law practice that was involved in the matter to try to obtain more information on the matter. The law practice informed that there were no supporting documents to prove the claim of the applicant.

As such, the matter has been put on hold until the claimant is able to provide supporting documents for the Committee to consider the application further. The claimant has been notified accordingly.

For the period under review from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016, the Committee received four fresh applications for a claim to the Compensation Fund. Three applications was rejected as the alleged loss did not arise from any dishonesty. One application was approved for payment.

A total sum of \$1,000.00 was approved for the period under review.



COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Peter Chong Siong Siang

CHAIRPERSON

Tan Kay Kheng

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Choy Wing Kin Montague

Lam Kuet Keng Steven John

Lek Siang Pheng

Sean Francois La'Brooy

Tan Jee Ming

Tayabali Aziz Samiwalla

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Ambika Rajendram

Professional Indemnity

Lok Vi Ming, SC, Chairperson



Members of the Professional Indemnity Committee

The Law Society's Compulsory Professional Indemnity Scheme (the "Scheme") has been renewed for a period of 12 months commencing 1 April 2016 with a 3% decrease in the Standard Primary Premium for the Limit of Indemnity of S\$1,000,000 each claim inclusive of costs and expenses.

This discount was the result of a formula agreed with the insurers by the PI Committee 2 years ago and members are fortunate to have the benefit of the reduction despite the overall claims record not being good.

The average loss ratio at 31 December 2015 for the last 4 complete years (2011 to 2014) was 67%. For the Policy Year 2011/2012 alone, the amount paid for claims exceeded S\$10million. There were still pending claims for this year of account with net reserves of about S\$1.7million at the point when renewal terms were provided by the insurers. The loss ratio for this particular year alone was more than 160%, and was expected to deteriorate further due to adverse developments in certain claims. Such

claims experience would typically have resulted in a premium increase. However, as the PI Committee had in 2015 instructed the Scheme Broker, Lockton Companies (Singapore) Pte Ltd, to negotiate a competitive 2 year renewal strategy, a premium discount on the Standard Primary Premium of 3% was secured by the PI Committee.

The renewal also brought to members enhanced coverage. The Scheme Broker negotiated coverage for costs and expenses in respect of breach of privacy for the following without any additional premium:

- Notification (legally required or otherwise) of a breach of privacy to affected individuals, entities or appropriate regulatory bodies.
- Engagement of counsel to make legal representation at any formal inquiry involving a breach of privacy.
- Engagement of a forensic consultant to conduct forensic analysis of the Insured's computer system to determine the cause and extent of the breach.

The coverage is subject to the following proviso:

1. Breach/potential breach of privacy must first be discovered during the Policy Period and notified in writing to the insurers during the same Policy Period.
2. Insured must inform the insurers what action they intend to take and obtain the consent of the insurers before incurring any costs and expenses.
3. Insurers will only approve costs and expenses that are reasonable and necessary to mitigate or avoid a claim or potential claim covered by the Policy.
4. Scheme Limit(s) will apply to the costs and expenses, and in the event of a claim arising from the same facts etc. payment of these costs and expenses will reduce the Limit of Liability for that claim.
5. Costs and Expenses are subject to the Policy Excess applicable to the Law Practice concerned.

This is a significant enhancement because it is essentially a first party loss not ordinarily covered by a Professional Indemnity Policy designed to cover only third party liabilities.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lok Vi Ming, SC

CHAIRPERSON

Pan Xingzheng Edric

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Kelvin Wong

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Eusuff Ali s/o N B M Mohamed Kassim

Goh Keng Yeow Simon

Mohamed Ibrahim s/o Mohamed Yakub

Ong Lee Woei

Pateloo Eruthiyanathan Ashokan

SECRETARIAT REPRESENTATIVE

Ambika Rajendram

This page is intentionally left blank.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

A C Fergusson Law Corporation
Abdul Rahman Law Corporation
Achievers LLC
Advent Law Corporation
Advocatus Law LLP
Allen & Gledhill LLP
Allen & Overy LLP
Amica Law LLC
Amolat & Partners
Andrew Yap & John
Anthony Law Corporation
Apac Law Corporation
Apex Law LLP
Ari Goh & Partners
Arul Chew & Partners
Aziz Tayabali & Associates
B Rengrajoo & Associates
B.C. Beazer Asia Pte Ltd
Baker & McKenzie.Wong & Leow
Belinda Ang Tang & Partners
Bird & Bird ATMD LLP
Bizibody Technology Pte Ltd
Bogaars & Din
Braddell Brothers LLP
C Paglar & Co
Catherine Lim LLC
Cavenagh Law LLP
CH Partners
Chan Neo LLP
Characterist LLC
Chia Wong LLP
Chia-Thomas Law Chambers LLC
Chiu Cheong LLC
City Law LLC
Clasis LLC
Clifford Chance Pte Ltd
Clifford Law LLP
Clyde & Co Clasis Singapore Pte. Ltd.
Colin Ng & Partners LLP

ComLaw LLC
Consilium Law Corporation
Continental Law LLP
Cornerstone Law LLP
CTLC Law Corporation
DA Partners Pte Ltd
Damodara Hazra LLP
David Chong & Co
David Lim & Partners LLP
David Nayar and Vardan
De Souza Lim & Goh LLP
Deepak Raja & Associates
Dennis Chua & Co
Dodwell & Co LLC
Dorothy Chai Law Practice
Drew & Napier LLC
ECYT Law LLC
Eden Law Corporation
Eldan Law LLP
Ella Cheong LLC
Engelin Teh Practice LLC
Ethos Law Corporation
Eugene Thuraisingam LLP
Fairchild Semiconductor Pte Ltd
Farallon Law Corporation
Flint & Battery LLC
Foo & Quek LLC
Fortis Law Corporation
Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer
FSLaw LLC
Gateway Law Corporation
Gavan Law Practice LLC
Genesis Law Corporation
George Hwang LLC
Gloria James-Civetta & Co
Gurdaib Cheong & Partners
Halijah Mohamad & Co
Haridass Ho & Partners
Harold Seet & Co
Harry Elias Partnership LLP
Heng, Leong & Srinivasan
Herbert Smith Freehills LLP
Hin Tat Augustine & Partners
Ho & Wee LLP
Ho Wong Law Practice LLC

Hogan Lovells Lee & Lee
 Hoh Law Corporation
 Holman Fenwick Willan Singapore LLP
 Housing & Development Board
 hslegal LLP
 I.R.B. Law LLP
 Infineon Technologies Asia Pacific
 Infinitus Law Corporation
 Intel Corporation
 Island Law LLC
 Jenny Lai & Co
 Jones Day
 Joo Toon LLC
 Joyce A. Tan & Partners LLC
 JusEquity Law Corporation
 JusJuris Law LLC
 Justicius Law Corporation
 K L Tan & Associates
 K Prasad & Co
 Kai Law Chambers
 Kalco Law LLC
 Karuppan Chettiar & Partners
 Kel LLC
 Kelvin Chia Partnership
 Kennedys Legal Solutions
 KhattarWong LLP
 KSCGP Juris LLP
 Law Connect LLC
 Lawrence Chua Practice LLC
 Lee & Lee
 Lee Bon Leong & Co
 Legal Clinic LLC
 Legal Solutions LLC
 Lim Soo Peng & Co
 Linklaters Singapore Pte Ltd
 Lisa Sam & Company
 Low Yeap Toh & Goon LLP
 Lumen Law Corporation
 Lyn Boxall LLC
 Mahmood Gaznavi & Partners
 Malkin & Maxwell LLP
 Mallal & Namazie
 Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore
 Maxime Law Corporation
 Metropolitan Law Corporation

Michael Hwang Chambers LLC
 Michael Khoo & Partners
 Mirchandani & Partners
 MOI Law Corporation
 Morgan Lewis Stamford LLC
 Mori Hamada & Matsumoto (Singapore) LLP
 MSC Law Corporation
 N.S. Kang
 National University of Singapore
 Norton Rose Fulbright (Asia) LLP
 Oon & Bazul LLP
 OTP Law Corporation
 Parwani Law LLC
 Peter Low LLC
 Premier Law LLC
 Quahe Woo & Palmer LLC
 Rajah & Tann Singapore LLP
 Rajan Chettiar LLC
 Ramdas & Wong
 Ramesh Tiwary
 Ravindran Associates
 Ray Louis Law Corporation
 Raymond Yeo
 RHTLaw Taylor Wessing LLP
 Riaz LLC
 Rio Tinto Singapore Holdings Pte Ltd
 Robert Wang & Woo LLP
 Rockwills Trustee Ltd
 Rodyk & Davidson LLP
 S T Chelvan & Company
 Satwant & Associates
 Selvam LLC
 Shook Lin & Bok LLP
 Sim Mong Teck & Partners
 Singapore Kindness Movement
 Standard Chartered Bank
 Straits Law Practice LLC
 T L Yap Law Chambers LLC
 Tan Kok Quan Partnertship
 Tan Rajah & Cheah
 Templars Law LLC
 Timothy Ng LLC
 Tito Isaac & Co LLP
 Tng Soon Chye & Co
 Trident Law Corporation

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

TSMP Law Corporation
United Legal Alliance LLC
Via Law Corporation
Vision Law LLC
Watson Farley & Williams Asia Practice LLP
William Poh & Louis Lim
Winchester Law LLC
Wincor Nixdorf
Withers KhattarWong LLP
Wong & Leow 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



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2016

CONTENTS

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



BAKER TILLY
TFW

Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Chartered Accountants of Singapore

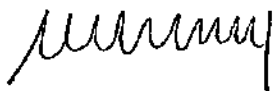
An Independent member of Baker Tilly International

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 38 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 2016 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

6 September 2016



Mr Adrian Tan Gim Hai
Treasurer



BAKER TILLY TFW

Baker Tilly TFW LLP
Chartered Accountants of Singapore
600 North Bridge Road
#05-01 Parkview Square
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 38, which comprise the balance sheet as at 31 March 2016, 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

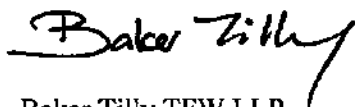
In our opinion, the financial statements of the Society are properly drawn up in accordance with the provisions of the Legal Profession Act (Chapter 161) and Singapore Financial Reporting Standards so as to present fairly, in all material respects the financial position of the Society as at 31 March 2016 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.

**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 11 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

6 September 2016

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 March 2016

		General Fund		Other Funds		Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services		Compensation Fund		Monies held in Trust		Total
Note		2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
ASSETS												
Non-current assets												
Property, plant and equipment	2	5,645,300	5,960,128	-	-	193,035	286,805	-	-	-	-	5,838,335
Intangible assets	3	64,090	-	-	-	551,166	-	-	-	-	-	615,256
Available-for-sale financial assets	4	4,398,261	4,048,268	-	-	-	-	5,506,338	5,084,271	-	-	9,904,599
Funds placed with fund manager	5	1,014,807	-	-	-	-	-	1,014,807	-	-	-	2,029,614
		11,122,458	10,008,396	-	-	744,201	286,805	6,521,145	5,084,271	-	-	18,387,804
												15,379,472
Current assets												
Available-for-sale financial assets	4	138,146	495,612	-	-	-	-	186,256	586,146	-	-	324,402
Inventories	6	-	-	51,106	28,624	-	-	-	-	-	-	51,106
Receivables	7	2,427,589	1,514,869	11,951	36,106	23,471	15,742	-	-	-	-	2,463,011
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	8	6,337,524	5,755,629	273,571	216,060	3,055,701	2,136,157	6,281,272	6,514,742	1,385,346	1,260,791	15,883,379
		8,903,259	7,766,110	336,628	280,790	3,079,172	2,151,899	6,467,528	7,100,888	1,385,346	1,260,791	20,171,933
												18,560,478
Interfund - amount due from/(to)												
	27	16,387	596,549	(75,235)	(11,035)	(137,059)	(677,308)	195,907	91,794	-	-	-
Total assets		20,042,104	18,371,055	261,393	269,755	3,686,314	1,761,396	13,184,580	12,276,953	1,385,346	1,260,791	33,939,950

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

THE LAW SOCIETY OF SINGAPORE

BALANCE SHEET (cont'd)
As at 31 March 2016

	Note	General Fund		Other Funds		Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services		Compensation Fund		Monies held in Trust		Total
		2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	2016	2015	
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
LIABILITIES												
Non-current liability												
Deferred capital grant	9	-	-	-	-	158,000	-	-	-	-	-	158,000
Current liabilities												
Fees received in advance		1,976,302	1,196,886	53,300	37,555	-	-	197,200	129,400	-	-	2,226,802
Payables and deferred income	10	453,600	449,595	9,361	14,145	1,219,973	447,583	1,300	150	-	-	1,684,234
Monies held in trust	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,385,346	1,260,791	1,385,346
Income tax payable		-	16,988	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16,988
		2,429,902	1,663,469	62,661	51,700	1,219,973	447,583	198,500	129,550	1,385,346	1,260,791	5,296,382
Total liabilities		2,429,902	1,663,469	62,661	51,700	1,377,973	447,583	198,500	129,550	1,385,346	1,260,791	5,454,382
Net assets		17,612,202	16,707,586	198,732	218,055	2,308,341	1,313,813	12,986,080	12,147,403	-	-	33,105,355
												30,386,857
Represented by:												
Accumulated Funds	11 to 18	17,454,522	16,457,512	198,732	218,055	2,308,341	1,313,813	12,758,038	11,816,554	-	-	32,719,633
Fair value reserve		157,680	250,074	-	-	-	-	228,042	330,849	-	-	385,722
		17,612,202	16,707,586	198,732	218,055	2,308,341	1,313,813	12,986,080	12,147,403	-	-	33,105,355
												30,386,857

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 2016

	Note	General Fund (Note 11)	Other Funds (Notes 14 to 18)	Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (Note 13)	Compensation Fund (Note 12)	Total
		2016	2016	2016	2016	2016
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
		2015	2015	2015	2015	2015
		\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
INCOME						
Subscriptions, Levy and Compensation Fund dues		4,857,944	4,602,271	—	529,550	5,387,494
Investment income and interest income from fixed deposits and current bank accounts		247,464	199,951	—	496,300	5,098,571
Income from operating activities		1,062,380	1,231,223	1,219	237,085	545,342
		6,167,788	6,033,445	103,810	28,000	5,968,529
				4,592,281	210,058	4,356,705
				3,032,493	761,385	11,901,365
				1,016,536		9,899,733
LESS EXPENDITURE						
Expenditure from operating activities		3,957,002	3,629,282	124,352	75,052	63,868
Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services		1,083,819	1,147,530	—	—	1,083,819
Disciplinary Proceedings costs		5,170,778	4,990,465	124,352	75,052	8,987,666
				77,031	63,868	7,773,890
				2,494,626		6,264,807
				—	—	1,147,530
				—	—	213,653
				2,494,626	63,868	7,625,990
Surplus/(deficit) before tax		997,010	1,042,980	994,528	941,484	2,913,699
Tax expense	20	—	—	—	—	—
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year		997,010	1,042,980	994,528	941,484	2,913,699
				537,867	697,517	2,273,743
				537,867	697,517	2,273,743
Other comprehensive (loss)/income for the financial year, net of tax						
Fair value (loss)/gain on available-for-sale financial assets		(92,302)	153,652	—	(102,899)	356,630
Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the financial year		904,708	1,196,632	994,528	838,585	2,718,498
				537,867	900,495	2,630,373

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 2016

	Note	As at 1 April \$	Income \$	Expenditure \$	Net Change \$	As at 31 March \$
2016						
<i>Accumulated Funds</i>						
General Fund	11	16,457,512	6,167,788	5,170,778	997,010	17,454,522
Compensation Fund	12	11,816,554	1,016,536	75,052	941,484	12,758,038
Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	13	1,313,813	4,612,012	3,617,484	994,528	2,308,341
<i>Other Funds</i>						
Jus Curio Fund	14	158,481	18,952	776	18,176	176,657
Library Fund	15	48,734	568	—	568	49,302
Pastoral Care Fund	16	(6,690)	—	—	—	(6,690)
Sports Meet Fund	17	(59,993)	85,509	120,834	(35,325)	(95,318)
Welfare Fund	18	77,523	—	2,742	(2,742)	74,781
		218,055	105,029	124,352	(19,323)	198,732
		29,805,934	11,901,365	8,987,666	2,913,699	32,719,633
<i>Fair value reserve</i>						
		580,923	—	195,201	(195,201)	385,722
		30,386,857	11,901,365	9,182,867	2,718,498	33,105,355
2015						
<i>Accumulated Funds</i>						
General Fund	11	15,414,532	6,033,445	4,990,465	1,042,980	16,457,512
Compensation Fund	12	11,119,037	761,385	63,868	697,517	11,816,554
Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	13	775,946	3,032,493	2,494,626	537,867	1,313,813
<i>Other Funds</i>						
Jus Curio Fund	14	145,900	13,165	584	12,581	158,481
Library Fund	15	48,389	345	—	345	48,734
Pastoral Care Fund	16	(5,070)	—	1,620	(1,620)	(6,690)
Sports Meet Fund	17	(44,066)	58,900	74,827	(15,927)	(59,993)
Welfare Fund	18	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
<i>Fair value reserve</i>						
		224,293	356,630	—	356,630	580,923
		27,756,484	10,256,363	7,625,990	2,630,373	30,386,857

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 2016

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
Cash flows from operating activities			
Surplus before tax		2,913,699	2,273,743
Adjustments for:			
Amortisation on intangible assets		153,814	—
Amortisation of deferred capital grant		(39,500)	—
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	2	476,285	477,005
Interest income		(189,582)	(134,191)
Investment income		(355,865)	(310,266)
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets		16,115	41,825
Property, plant and equipment written off		—	29,997
Operating cash flows before working capital changes		2,974,966	2,378,113
Fixed deposits and bank balances held in trust		(124,555)	(85,703)
Inventories		(22,482)	(3,963)
Receivables		(896,294)	(1,207,336)
Deferred capital grant received		197,500	—
Fees received in advance		862,961	1,056,847
Grants received from the Ministry of Law		—	(2,500)
Payables and monies held in trust		897,316	494,450
Cash from operations		3,889,412	2,629,908
Income tax paid		(16,988)	—
Net cash from operating activities		3,872,424	2,629,908
Cash flows from investing activities			
Additions of available-for-sale financial assets		(1,510,634)	(1,744,221)
Funds placed with fund manager		(2,000,000)	—
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets		1,255,000	1,325,100
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	2	(67,687)	(1,156,864)
Purchase of intangible assets		(769,070)	—
Interest received		189,582	134,191
Investment income received		355,865	310,266
Net cash used in investing activities		(2,546,944)	(1,131,528)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents		1,325,480	1,498,380
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of financial year		14,622,588	13,124,208
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year		15,948,068	14,622,588
Cash and cash equivalents comprise:			
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	8	17,333,414	15,883,379
Less: Monies held in Trust	8	(1,385,346)	(1,260,791)
		15,948,068	14,622,588

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 2016

	General Fund	Other Funds	Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	Compensation Fund	Monies held in Trust	Total
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities						
Surplus/(deficit) before tax	997,010	(19,323)	994,528	941,484	-	2,913,699
Adjustments for:						
Amortisation of intangible assets	16,022	-	137,792	-	-	153,814
Amortisation of deferred capital grant	-	-	(39,500)	-	-	(39,500)
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	381,987	-	94,298	-	-	476,285
Interest income	(88,603)	(1,219)	(19,731)	(80,029)	-	(189,582)
Investment income	(158,861)	-	-	(197,004)	-	(355,865)
Loss on disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	7,424	-	-	8,691	-	16,115
Operating cash flows before working capital changes	1,154,979	(20,542)	1,167,387	673,142	-	2,974,966
Fixed deposits and bank balances held in trust	-	-	-	-	(124,555)	(124,555)
Inventories	-	(22,482)	-	-	-	(22,482)
Receivables	(912,720)	24,155	(7,729)	-	-	(896,294)
Deferred capital grant received	-	-	197,500	-	-	197,500
Fees received in advance	779,416	15,745	-	67,800	-	862,961
Payables and monies held in trust	4,005	(4,784)	772,390	1,150	124,555	897,316
Interfund - amount due from/(to)	580,162	64,200	(540,249)	(104,113)	-	-
Cash from operations	1,605,842	56,292	1,589,299	637,979	-	3,889,412
Income tax paid	(16,988)	-	-	-	-	(16,988)
Net cash from operating activities	1,588,854	56,292	1,589,299	637,979	-	3,872,424
Cash flows from investing activities						
Additions of available-for-sale financial assets	(671,760)	-	-	(838,874)	-	(1,510,634)
Funds placed with fund manager	(1,000,000)	-	-	(1,000,000)	-	(2,000,000)
Purchase of intangible assets	(80,112)	-	(688,958)	-	-	(769,070)
Proceed from disposal of available-for-sale financial assets	564,608	-	-	690,392	-	1,255,000
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(67,159)	-	(528)	-	-	(67,687)
Interest received	88,603	1,219	19,731	80,029	-	189,582
Investment income received	158,861	-	-	197,004	-	355,865
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	(1,006,959)	1,219	(669,755)	(871,449)	-	(2,546,944)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	581,895	57,511	919,544	(233,470)	-	1,325,480
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of financial year	5,755,629	216,060	2,136,157	6,514,742	-	14,622,588
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year	6,337,524	273,571	3,055,701	6,281,272	-	15,948,068

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
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Cash flows from operating activities						
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	—	—	—	—	—	—
Net cash from/(used in) operating activities	1,146,923	(71,635)	908,823	645,797	—	2,629,908
Cash flows from investing activities						
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
Net cash (used in)/from investing activities	(902,049)	818	(264,659)	34,362	—	(1,131,528)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	244,874	(70,817)	644,164	680,159	—	1,498,380
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of financial year	5,510,755	286,877	1,491,993	5,834,583	—	13,124,208
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of financial year	5,755,629	216,060	2,136,157	6,514,742	—	14,622,588

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 2016

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 dollar, 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 2016 was \$12,258,615 (2015: \$10,214,297).
- (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 2016 was \$5,838,335 (2015: \$6,246,933). 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 2016 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 115 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

FRS 115 replaces FRS 18 'Revenue', FRS 11 'Construction contracts' and other revenue-related interpretations. It applies to all contracts with customers, except for leases, financial instruments, insurance contracts and certain guarantee contracts and non-monetary exchange contracts. FRS 115 provides a single, principle-based model to be applied to all contracts with customers. It provides guidance on whether revenue should be recognised at a point in time or over time, replacing the previous distinction between goods and services. The standard introduces new guidance on specific circumstances where cost should be capitalised and new requirements for disclosure of revenue in the financial statements. The standard is effective for annual periods beginning on or after 1 January 2018. The Society will reassess its contracts with customers in accordance with FRS 115.

FRS 109 Financial Instruments

FRS 109 includes guidance on (i) the classification and measurement of financial assets and financial liabilities; (ii) impairment requirements for financial assets; and (iii) general hedge accounting. 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 reassess the potential impact of FRS 109 and plans to adopt the standard on the required effective date.

(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. 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.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)

(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.

(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 the fund, in which case it is recognised in the 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 the fund if the tax relates to items that are credited or charged, in the same or a different period, directly to the 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.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)

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

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.

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:

	Years
Leasehold building	50
Renovation	5 to 10
Computer equipment	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) Intangible assets

Computer software development costs are capitalised on the basis of the costs incurred to acquire and bring to use the specific software. Direct expenditure, which enhances or extends the performance of computer software beyond its original specifications and which can be reliably measured, is recognised as a capital improvement and added to the original cost of the software. Costs associated with maintaining computer software are recognised as an expense as incurred.

Computer software development costs and acquired computer software licences are stated at cost less accumulated amortisation and accumulated impairment losses. These costs are amortised using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives of 5 years.

The amortisation period and amortisation method of intangible assets are reviewed at least at each balance sheet date. The effects of any revision are recognised in profit or loss when the changes arise.

(i) 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.

(j) Inventories

Inventories comprising publication, gifts and souvenirs 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.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)

(k) 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" (excluding prepayments) and "Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances" in the balance sheet.

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.

1 Summary of significant accounting policies (cont'd)

(k) Financial assets (cont'd)

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

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.

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.

(l) Financial liabilities

Financial liabilities include interfund - amount due to, payables (excluding donations received in advance, grants received in advance and Just Sing Fundraising Event) 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.

(m) 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.

(n) Funds

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

(o) 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 \$
2016								
Cost								
At 1 April 2015	7,776,606	3,006,521	838,205	182,690	317	179,340	132,866	12,116,545
Additions	—	54,090	9,191	2,106	—	2,300	—	67,687
At 31 March 2016	7,776,606	3,060,611	847,396	184,796	317	181,640	132,866	12,184,232
Accumulated depreciation								
At 1 April 2015	2,592,202	2,161,079	697,549	143,212	317	142,387	132,866	5,869,612
Depreciation charge	155,532	224,081	68,359	17,892	—	10,421	—	476,285
At 31 March 2016	2,747,734	2,385,160	765,908	161,104	317	152,808	132,866	6,345,897
Net carrying value								
At 31 March 2016	5,028,872	675,451	81,488	23,692	—	28,832	—	5,838,335
Comprises:								
<i>General Fund</i>	5,028,872	556,325	45,423	13,148	—	1,532	—	5,645,300
<i>Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services</i>	—	119,126	36,065	10,544	—	27,300	—	193,035
	5,028,872	675,451	81,488	23,692	—	28,832	—	5,838,335
2015								
Cost								
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
Accumulated depreciation								
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
Net carrying value								
At 31 March 2015	5,184,404	845,442	140,656	39,478	—	36,953	—	6,246,933
Comprises:								
<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
			2016 \$	2015 \$				
Depreciation is charged as follows:								
General Fund (Note 11e)			381,987	382,814				
Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (Note 13)								
– General Pro Bono Services Office (“General PBSO”)			41,775	41,774				
– Criminal Legal Aid Scheme (“CLAS”)			52,523	52,417				
			476,285	477,005				

3 Intangible assets

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Computer software development costs		
Cost		
Additions and balance at the end of financial year	769,070	—
Accumulated amortisation		
Amortisation charge for the year and balance at the end of financial year	(153,814)	—
Net carrying amount		
At the end of the financial year	615,256	—
Amortisation is charged as follows:		
General Fund (Note 11e)	16,022	—
Pro Bono, Learning and support services (Note 13)		
- Office fund	137,081	—
- CLAS	711	—
	153,814	—

The computer software development costs were mainly incurred for computerisation of PBSO workflows for implementation of a customer relationship management system.

4 Available-for-sale financial assets

Available-for-sale financial assets comprise:

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Interest bearing securities:		
Balance at the beginning of financial year	7,958,930	7,383,530
Additions	1,505,750	1,753,125
Disposals	(1,271,115)	(1,287,025)
Fair value (loss)/gain	(64,936)	109,300
Balance at the end of financial year	8,128,629	7,958,930
Accrued interest	73,695	72,807
Equity instruments (quoted):		
Balance at the beginning of financial year	2,182,560	2,015,130
Additions	3,996	—
Disposals	—	(79,900)
Fair value (loss)/gain	(159,879)	247,330
Balance at the end of financial year	2,026,677	2,182,560
	10,229,001	10,214,297

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

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Non-current		
General Fund	4,398,261	4,048,268
Compensation Fund	5,506,338	5,084,271
	9,904,599	9,132,539
Current		
General Fund	138,146	495,612
Compensation Fund	186,256	586,146
	324,402	1,081,758
	10,229,001	10,214,297

4 Available-for-sale financial assets (cont'd)

As at 31 March 2016, interest bearing securities earn interest at fixed rates from 2.73% to 6.00% (2015: 3.01% to 6.00%) per annum and the maturity dates of certain securities are due within 1 to 8 years (2015: 1 to 8 years) from the balance sheet date. The balances include perpetual bonds.

5 Funds placed with fund manager

Funds are placed with the professional fund managers at BNP Paribas Investment Management. The fund manager is given discretionary powers within certain guidelines to invest the funds.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Balance at the beginning of financial year	—	—
Funds placed during the year	2,000,000	—
Fair value gain	29,614	—
Balance at the end of financial year	<u>2,029,614</u>	<u>—</u>

At the balance sheet date, the funds placed with fund manager comprise the following:

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Quoted equities	408,464	—
Quoted interest bearing securities	1,472,380	—
Total investments	<u>1,880,844</u>	<u>—</u>
Bank balances	148,770	—
	<u>2,029,614</u>	<u>—</u>

6 Inventories

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Publications, gifts and souvenirs (Note 14)	<u>51,106</u>	<u>28,624</u>

7 Receivables

	General Fund \$	Other Funds \$	Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Subscription fees received by Supreme Court on behalf of the Society	2,031,605	—	—	2,031,605	1,315,080
Sundry receivables	148,824	11,779	9,419	170,022	146,780
Sundry deposits	234,458	172	688	235,318	78,092
Prepayments	12,702	—	13,364	26,066	26,765
	<u>2,427,589</u>	<u>11,951</u>	<u>23,471</u>	<u>2,463,011</u>	<u>1,566,717</u>

8 Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances

	2016			2015		
	Fixed deposits \$	Bank and cash balances \$	Total \$	Fixed deposits \$	Bank and cash balances \$	Total \$
General Fund	5,028,250	1,309,274	6,337,524	4,907,160	848,469	5,755,629
Compensation Fund	5,470,306	810,966	6,281,272	5,926,255	588,487	6,514,742
	<u>10,498,556</u>	<u>2,120,240</u>	<u>12,618,796</u>	<u>10,833,415</u>	<u>1,436,956</u>	<u>12,270,371</u>
<u>Other Funds:</u>						
Jus Curio Fund	41,867	82,345	124,212	41,216	39,543	80,759
Library Fund	39,130	10,000	49,130	38,562	10,000	48,562
Pastoral Care Fund	—	(6,690)	(6,690)	—	(6,690)	(6,690)
Sports Meet Fund	—	32,138	32,138	—	15,906	15,906
Welfare fund	—	74,781	74,781	—	77,523	77,523
	<u>80,997</u>	<u>192,574</u>	<u>273,571</u>	<u>79,778</u>	<u>136,282</u>	<u>216,060</u>
<u>Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services:</u>						
General PBSO	1,705,698	876,875	2,582,573	1,464,001	128,466	1,592,467
CLAS	202,698	153,879	356,577	300,294	117,371	417,665
Law Awareness Fund	—	74,311	74,311	—	83,967	83,967
Bar Memorial Scholarship Fund	15,530	26,710	42,240	15,348	26,710	42,058
	<u>1,923,926</u>	<u>1,131,775</u>	<u>3,055,701</u>	<u>1,779,643</u>	<u>356,514</u>	<u>2,136,157</u>
	12,503,479	3,444,589	15,948,068	12,692,836	1,929,752	14,622,588
Monies held in Trust (Note 19)	1,144,005	241,341	1,385,346	998,573	262,218	1,260,791
Total	13,647,484	3,685,930	17,333,414	13,691,409	2,191,970	15,883,379

The fixed deposits' interest rates as at 31 March 2016 are fixed and ranged between 0.25% to 2.03% (2015: 0.25% to 2.00%) per annum. The fixed deposits mature within 1 to 12 months (2015: 1 to 11 months) after the balance sheet date.

9 Deferred capital grant

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<u>Pro Bono Learning and Support Services</u>		
Balance at the beginning of financial year	—	—
Grant received from Ministry of Law	197,500	—
Amortisation for the year	(39,500)	—
Balance at the end of financial year	<u>158,000</u>	—

The deferred capital grant was received from the Ministry of Law for the compensation of General PBSO workflows for implementation of a customer relationship management system as mentioned in Note 3 and is amortised over their estimated useful lives of 5 years.

10 Payables

	General Fund \$	Other Funds \$	Pro Bono Learning and Support Services \$	Compensation Fund \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
Sundry payables	300,464	6,688	82,899	300	390,351	368,060
Donations received in advance	—	—	—	—	—	191,434
Accrued expenses	153,136	2,673	2,000	1,000	158,809	154,479
Just Sing Fundraising Event	—	—	232,100	—	232,100	—
Donations received in advance from law firms under CLAS Fellowship Scheme	—	—	294,974	—	294,974	—
Grant received in advance from Ministry of Law	—	—	608,000	—	608,000	197,500
	<u>453,600</u>	<u>9,361</u>	<u>1,219,973</u>	<u>1,300</u>	<u>1,684,234</u>	<u>911,473</u>

11 General Fund

	Note	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME			
Subscriptions from members	11a	4,857,944	4,602,271
Interest income on fixed deposits	11b	88,603	60,280
Investment income		158,861	139,671
Surplus from self financing projects	11c	755,403	975,700
Sundry income	11d	306,977	255,523
		<u>6,167,788</u>	<u>6,033,445</u>
LESS EXPENDITURE			
Administrative expenses	11e	789,212	860,979
Personnel expenses	11f	2,993,050	2,623,320
Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	11g	1,083,819	1,147,530
Meetings, events and other Council expenses	11h	181,300	145,731
Council budgets for special projects/expenditure	11i	(6,560)	(748)
Disciplinary Proceedings costs	11j	129,957	213,653
		<u>5,170,778</u>	<u>4,990,465</u>
Surplus before tax		997,010	1,042,980
Tax expense	20	—	—
Surplus for the financial year		<u>997,010</u>	<u>1,042,980</u>
Balance brought forward		16,457,212	15,414,532
Balance carried forward		<u>17,454,222</u>	<u>16,457,512</u>

11 General Fund (cont'd)

	2016 \$	2015 \$
[Note 11a]		
Analysis of subscriptions from members		
Subscriptions from Non Practitioners	49,694	53,071
Subscriptions from Practitioners	4,808,250	4,549,200
	<u>4,857,944</u>	<u>4,602,271</u>
[Note 11b]		
Analysis of interest income on fixed deposits		
Interest received on fixed deposits	88,603	60,280
[Note 11c]		
Analysis of surplus/(deficit) from self financing projects		
<u>Annual Dinner</u>		
Income	62,284	62,841
Expenditure *	(78,590)	(67,570)
Deficit	<u>(16,306)</u>	<u>(4,729)</u>
<u>Continuing Professional Development Programmes/Advocacy</u>		
Income	1,287,060	1,155,674
Expenditure *	(560,049)	(451,418)
Surplus	<u>727,011</u>	<u>704,256</u>
<u>Litigation Conference 2014</u>		
Income	–	178,922
Expenditure *	–	(100,468)
Surplus	<u>–</u>	<u>78,454</u>
<u>Regional Insolvency Conference 2014</u>		
Income	–	90,997
Expenditure *	–	(41,164)
Surplus	<u>–</u>	<u>49,833</u>
<u>3rd Annual Asia Pro Bono Conference 2014</u>		
Income	–	128,085
Expenditure *	–	(97,767)
Surplus	<u>–</u>	<u>30,318</u>
<u>Administrative & Constitutional Law Conference 2015</u>		
Income	–	16,330
Expenditure *	(570)	(10,380)
(Deficit)/surplus	<u>(570)</u>	<u>5,950</u>
<u>Litigation Conference 2015</u>		
Income	1,169	194,397
Expenditure *	(1,235)	(85,429)
(Deficit)/surplus	<u>(66)</u>	<u>108,968</u>
<u>National Insolvency Conference</u>		
Income	98,493	–
Expenditure *	(53,159)	–
Surplus	<u>45,334</u>	<u>–</u>

11 General Fund (cont'd)

	2016 \$	2015 \$
[Note 11c]		
Analysis of surplus/(deficit) from self financing projects (cont'd)		
<u>26th Law Asia Conference</u>		
Income	–	2,650
Expenditure*	–	–
Surplus	–	2,650
 Total surplus	 755,403	 975,700

* Relates to direct expenditure only and does not include secretariat staff or admin overheads.

[Note 11d]		
Analysis of sundry income		
Advertising - online directory	89,514	87,329
Classifieds advertising	73,794	71,192
Other income	143,669	97,002
	306,977	255,523

[Note 11e]		
Analysis of administrative expenses		
Advertising	65,088	14,298
Amortisation of intangible assets	16,022	–
Auditor's remuneration	16,000	25,200
Bank charges	3,088	2,775
Delivery charges	722	–
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	381,987	382,814
Property, plant and equipment written off	–	29,997
Miscellaneous	3,014	7,700
Moving and storage	–	13,100
Newspapers, periodicals and binding services	1,193	1,285
Insurance	3,644	9,048
Office rental at One Raffles Place	–	74,933
Pantry supplies	4,052	3,047
Photocopier metered charges and paper costs	11,323	9,744
Photocopier rental fees	61,440	65,804
Postage and courier charges	15,370	14,715
Printing and stationery	12,010	9,831
Professional fees	4,400	5,100
Repairs and maintenance		
- High Court bar room	4,491	5,422
- Premises at 39 South Bridge Road	85,255	89,195
- Secretariat equipment and website	36,619	31,851
- State (formerly Subordinate) Courts bar room	25,832	22,051
Retrieval charges for archived documents	–	1,197
Staff resources	1,133	6,078
Storage charges	21,979	21,179
Telephone, facsimile and email broadcast charges	14,550	14,615
	789,212	860,979

11 General Fund (cont'd)

	2016 \$	2015 \$
[Note 11f]		
Analysis of personnel expenses*		
Central Provident Fund and Skills Development Levy	399,214	326,865
Temporary staff and employment agency fees	18,694	41,634
Salaries (including temporary staff), bonuses and related expenses	2,491,800	2,185,806
Staff allowances	2,489	2,766
Staff fringe benefits	13,540	15,912
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	38,261	39,889
Staff training fees	29,052	10,448
	<u>2,993,050</u>	<u>2,623,320</u>
* Personnel expenses	3,626,506	3,197,025
Less: allocation of common costs		
- General PBSO	(148,333)	(210,841)
- CLAS	(414,126)	(298,996)
- Compensation Fund	(70,997)	(63,868)
	<u>2,993,050</u>	<u>2,623,320</u>
[Note 11g]		
Analysis of Donations/Grants/Contributions to Singapore Institute of Legal Education/Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services		
Book prizes	2,100	2,600
Contributions to the Singapore Institute of Legal Education	519,260	494,930
Contributions to the Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services	562,459	650,000
	<u>1,083,819</u>	<u>1,147,530</u>
[Note 11h]		
Analysis of meetings, events and other Council expenses		
Annual General Meeting	1,780	1,547
Membership fees for international bar associations	5,239	5,483
Committee meetings	15,256	13,999
Council and committee work/activities	103,081	81,471
Legal mission/tours	12,220	7,707
Foreign travel/conferences	43,724	35,524
	<u>181,300</u>	<u>145,731</u>
[Note 11i]		
Analysis of Council budgets for special projects/expenditure		
Biennial Lecture	(6,186)	-
Law Society Arbitration Scheme	(374)	(748)
	<u>(6,560)</u>	<u>(748)</u>
[Note 11j]		
Analysis of Disciplinary Proceedings costs		
Expenses	152,056	218,017
Add: expenses relating to inquiry panel	7,916	5,920
Less: costs recovered	(30,015)	(10,284)
	<u>129,957</u>	<u>213,653</u>

12 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.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Contributions received	529,550	496,300
Interest on fixed deposits	79,924	66,490
Investment income	197,004	170,595
Penalty under Section 50(2) of the Legal Profession Act	28,000	28,000
Unclaimed moneys transferred under the Legal Professional Act First Schedule Part II Section 11(3)	182,058	–
	1,016,536	761,385
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Grants under Section 75(9) of the Legal Profession Act	1,000	–
Inspection of books of account pursuant to Rule 12 of the Legal Profession (Solicitors Account) Rules	3,055	–
Expenses relating to establishment, maintenance, administration and application of funds	70,997	63,868
	75,052	63,868
 Surplus for the financial year	 941,484	 697,517
 Balance brought forward	 11,816,554	 11,119,037
Balance carried forward	12,758,038	11,816,554

13 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services

With the support of the Ministry 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 2016 amounted to \$1,845,283 (2015: \$2,080,531).

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

	General PBSO \$	CLAS \$	Law Awareness Fund \$	BMSF \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME						
Contribution from The Law Society of Singapore:						
- Just Walk	—	—	—	—	—	400,000
- Annual Contribution	562,459	—	—	—	562,459	250,000
Contribution from the Ministry of Law:						
- Amortisation of deferred capital grant	39,500	—	—	—	39,500	—
- Operating costs	400,000	400,000	—	—	800,000	725,000
- Completed CLAS cases	—	685,000	—	—	685,000	—
Contribution from NCSS:						
- Appropriate Adult Scheme	23,837	—	—	—	23,837	87,404
- Care and Share grant	1,339,035	—	—	—	1,339,035	85,965
Contribution from SINGA Adoption	25,200	—	—	—	25,200	—
Contribution from SINGA Donation	4,605	—	—	—	4,605	—
Contributions/donations received from others	134,593	309,588	25,000	—	469,181	316,064
Donation from NVPC	4,168	—	—	—	4,168	—
CLAS Fellowship	—	488,427	—	—	488,427	53,566
Gross proceeds from Just Walk	50,973	—	—	—	50,973	1,069,440
PBSO Computerisation Project	38,601	—	—	—	38,601	10,000
Interest income on fixed deposits	16,698	2,851	—	182	19,731	6,603
Other income	—	61,295	—	—	61,295	28,451
	2,639,669	1,947,161	25,000	182	4,612,012	3,032,493
LESS EXPENDITURE						
Ad hoc Pro Bono Referral Scheme	1,321	—	—	—	1,321	4,110
Amortisation of intangible assets	137,081	711	—	—	137,792	—
Appropriate Adult Scheme	108,821	—	—	—	108,821	5,094
Auditor's remuneration	4,000	—	—	—	4,000	2,000
Bank charges	2,281	861	—	—	3,142	4,715
Central Provident Fund and Skills Development Levy	67,170	135,540	—	—	202,710	137,105
Community legal clinics	237	—	—	—	237	65
Corporate and administrative support service	148,333	414,126	—	—	562,459	509,837
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	41,775	52,523	—	—	94,298	94,191
Disbursement charged by assigned Lawyers/Specialist report fees	—	232,767	—	—	232,767	58,047
Enhanced CLAS (Honorariums)	—	356,386	—	—	356,386	47,050
Law Awareness projects	—	—	8,134	—	8,134	3,547
Library materials	—	—	—	—	—	84
Meeting expenses	620	100	232	—	952	1,170
Miscellaneous	595	889	—	—	1,484	1,774
Office rental	137,648	—	—	—	137,648	137,648
Other activities	5,660	—	—	—	5,660	4,703
Pantry supplies	1,588	1,657	—	—	3,245	3,118
PBSO IT Project	—	—	—	—	—	10,000
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper costs	11,083	16,523	—	—	27,606	24,214
Resource materials	—	1,882	—	—	1,882	—
SINGA Fund Raising project	15,000	—	—	—	15,000	—
Volunteer engagement/recognition/training	893	18,062	—	—	18,955	—

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

	General PBSO \$	CLAS \$	Law Awareness Fund \$	BMSF \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
LESS EXPENDITURE (cont'd)						
Printing and stationery and postages	3,807	5,894	—	—	9,701	6,790
Repair and maintenance	9,100	15,529	—	—	24,629	31,697
Salaries and bonuses	367,816	1,183,906	36,640	—	1,588,362	1,222,823
Staff allowance and transport	3,280	6,179	—	—	9,459	8,853
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	8,798	6,804	—	—	15,602	14,122
Staff training	12,084	8,144	—	—	20,228	9,116
Staff welfare	4,138	4,650	—	—	8,788	3,580
Telephone and facsimile charges	11,355	4,861	—	—	16,216	14,661
Just Walk expenses	—	—	—	—	—	134,512
	<u>1,104,484</u>	<u>2,467,994</u>	<u>45,006</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>3,617,484</u>	<u>2,494,626</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year	1,535,185	(520,833)	(20,006)	182	994,528	537,867
Balance brought 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>
Balance carried forward	<u>3,820,342</u>	<u>(1,555,080)</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>42,240</u>	<u>2,308,341</u>	<u>1,313,813</u>

Employees' Remuneration Bands

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

	2016	2015
Number of employee in bands:		
\$100,000 to \$200,000	2	1
Above \$200,000	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

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.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Income		
Contribution from Singapore Totalisator Board and Ministry of Law	38,601	10,000
Less expenditure		
Consultancy fees	—	10,000
Software	—	5,961
	<u>—</u>	<u>15,961</u>
Surplus/(deficit)	<u>38,601</u>	<u>(5,961)</u>
Capital expenditure during the year	<u>685,402</u>	<u>45,507</u>

13 Pro Bono, Learning and Support Services (cont'd)**Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2016**

	Note	General PBSO \$	CLAS \$	Law Awareness Fund \$	BMSF \$	2016 \$	2015 \$
ASSETS							
Non-current assets							
Property, plant and equipment	2	35,357	157,678	—	—	193,035	286,805
Intangible assets	3	548,321	2,845	—	—	551,166	—
		<u>583,678</u>	<u>160,523</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>744,201</u>	<u>286,805</u>
Current assets							
Receivables	7	22,833	638	—	—	23,471	15,742
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	8	2,582,573	356,577	74,311	42,240	3,055,701	2,136,157
		<u>2,605,406</u>	<u>357,215</u>	<u>74,311</u>	<u>42,240</u>	<u>3,079,172</u>	<u>2,151,899</u>
Amount due from/(to) The Law Society of Singapore		361,528	(498,587)	—	—	(137,059)	(677,308)
Interfund - amount due from/(to)		694,627	(621,260)	(73,367)	—	—	—
		<u>1,056,155</u>	<u>(1,119,847)</u>	<u>(73,367)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(137,059)</u>	<u>(677,308)</u>
Total assets/(liabilities)		<u>4,245,239</u>	<u>(602,109)</u>	<u>944</u>	<u>42,240</u>	<u>3,686,314</u>	<u>1,761,396</u>
LIABILITIES							
Non-current liability							
Deferred capital grant	9	158,000	—	—	—	158,000	—
Current liability							
Payables	10	266,897	952,971	105	—	1,219,973	477,583
Total liabilities		<u>424,897</u>	<u>952,971</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,377,973</u>	<u>447,583</u>
Net assets/(liabilities)		<u>3,820,342</u>	<u>(1,555,080)</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>42,240</u>	<u>2,308,341</u>	<u>1,313,813</u>
Represented by:							
Accumulated Funds		<u>3,820,342</u>	<u>(1,555,080)</u>	<u>839</u>	<u>42,240</u>	<u>2,308,341</u>	<u>1,313,813</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 slightly more than half year of operations.

The deficit in CLAS fund is funded by General PBSO fund.

13 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).

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Contribution from The Law Society of Singapore:		
- Just Walk	—	400,000
- Annual contribution	562,459	250,000
Contribution from the Ministry of Law:		
- Operating costs	400,000	400,000
Amortisation of deferred capital grant	39,500	—
Contribution from NCSS:		
- Appropriate Adult Scheme	23,837	87,404
- Care and Share grant	1,339,035	85,965
Contribution from SINGA Adoption	25,200	—
Contribution from SINGA Donation	4,605	—
Contributions/donations received from others	134,593	122,067
Donation from NVPC	4,168	—
PBSO Computerisation Project	38,601	10,000
Gross proceeds from Just Walk	50,973	999,440
Interest income on fixed deposits	16,698	5,607
	2,639,669	2,360,483
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Ad hoc Pro Bono Referral Scheme	1,321	4,110
Amortisation of intangible assets	137,081	—
Appropriate Adult Scheme	108,821	5,094
Auditor's remuneration	4,000	2,000
Bank charges	2,281	4,544
Central Provident Fund and Skill Development Levy	67,170	59,047
Community legal clinics	237	65
Corporate and administrative support service	148,333	210,841
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	41,775	41,774
Just Walk expenses	—	134,512
Library materials	—	84
Meeting expenses	620	626
Miscellaneous	595	715
Office rental	137,648	137,648
Other activities	5,660	2,824
Pantry supplies	1,588	1,325
PBSO IT Project	—	10,000
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper costs	11,083	10,494
Printing and stationery and postages	3,807	2,930
Repair and maintenance	9,100	17,120
Salaries and bonuses	367,816	461,275
SINGA Fund Raising project	15,000	—
Staff allowance and transport	3,280	4,438
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	8,798	8,036
Staff training	12,084	7,663
Staff welfare	4,138	2,046
Telephone and facsimile charges	11,355	12,074
Volunteer engagement recognition/training	893	—
	1,104,484	1,141,285
Surplus for the financial year	1,535,185	1,219,198
Balance brought forward	2,285,157	1,065,959
Balance carried forward	3,820,342	2,285,157

13 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.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Contributions received from the Ministry of Law:		
- Operating costs	400,000	325,000
- Completed CLAS cases	685,000	—
Contribution from others	309,588	190,922
CLAS Fellowship	488,427	53,566
Interest income on fixed deposits	2,851	889
Gross proceeds from Just Walk	—	70,000
Criminal Law Training Programme	21,645	10,972
Enhanced CLAS collection	39,650	5,479
	1,947,161	656,828
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	861	170
Central Provident Fund and Skills Development Levy	135,540	78,058
Corporate and administrative support service	414,126	298,996
Criminal Law Training Programme	—	1,879
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment (Note 2)	52,523	52,417
Disbursement charged by assigned lawyers	232,767	58,047
Enhanced CLAS (Honorariums)	356,386	47,050
Meeting expenses	100	—
Miscellaneous	889	1,008
Other activities	—	231
Pantry supplies	1,657	1,793
Photocopier rental, metered charges and paper costs	16,523	13,720
Printing and stationery and postages	5,894	3,860
Repair and maintenance	15,529	14,577
Salaries and bonuses	1,183,906	719,548
Staff allowance and transport	6,179	4,291
Staff medical fees and group hospital insurance	6,804	6,086
Staff training	8,144	1,453
Staff welfare	4,650	1,534
Telephone and facsimile charges	4,861	2,587
Volunteer engagement/recognition/training	18,062	—
Resource materials	1,882	—
Amortisation of intangible assets	711	—
	2,467,994	1,307,305
Deficit for the financial year	(520,833)	(650,477)
Balance brought forward	(1,034,247)	(383,770)
Balance carried forward	(1,555,080)	(1,034,247)

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

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Donations received from others	25,000	3,075
Other income	—	12,000
	<u>25,000</u>	<u>15,075</u>
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	—	1
Printing of the “know the law” booklets	5,727	—
Law Awareness project - Law Cares	—	3,075
Law Awareness project - Project Schools	627	447
Law Awareness project - LegaleSE	—	20,025
Law Awareness Weekend 2015	1,780	—
Meeting expenses	232	313
Miscellaneous	—	51
Salaries and bonuses*	36,640	22,000
Staff allowance	—	124
	<u>45,006</u>	<u>46,036</u>
Deficit for the financial year	(20,006)	(30,961)
Balance brought forward	20,845	51,806
Balance carried forward	<u>839</u>	<u>20,845</u>

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

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.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Interest income on fixed deposits	182	107
Balance brought forward	42,058	41,951
Balance carried forward	<u>42,240</u>	<u>42,058</u>

Amount due from/(to) The Law Society of Singapore

	← 2016 →	← 2015 →				
	Amount due from \$	Amount (due to) \$	Total \$	Amount due from \$	Amount (due to) \$	Total \$
General PBSO	562,459	(200,931)	361,528	687,483	—	687,483
CLAS	—	(498,587)	(498,587)	—	(1,380,127)	(1,380,127)
Law Awareness Fund	—	—	—	15,336	—	15,336
Total	562,459	(699,518)	(137,059)	702,819	(1,380,127)	(677,308)

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

14 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.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Sale of Publications	1,784	1,922
Sale of Gifts and Souvenirs	28,984	15,233
Sale of Consignment Items	1,549	2,040
	<u>32,317</u>	<u>19,195</u>
LESS COST OF SALES		
Opening inventories	28,624	24,661
Purchases and related costs	36,498	10,466
Closing inventories (Note 6)	(51,106)	(28,624)
	<u>14,016</u>	<u>6,503</u>
Gross surplus	18,301	12,692
Interest from fixed deposits	651	473
	<u>18,952</u>	<u>13,165</u>
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	439	264
Delivery charges	20	—
Repair and maintenance	317	320
	<u>776</u>	<u>584</u>
Surplus for the financial year	18,176	12,581
Balance brought forward	158,481	145,900
Balance carried forward	<u>176,657</u>	<u>158,481</u>

15 Library Fund

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

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Interest income from fixed deposits	568	345
Balance brought forward	48,734	48,389
Balance carried forward	<u>49,302</u>	<u>48,734</u>

16 Pastoral Care Fund

A Fund established to promote pastoral care programs for practitioners.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Practice Consult fee expenses	–	(1,620)
Balance brought forward	(6,690)	(5,070)
Balance carried forward	(6,690)	(6,690)

17 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.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
INCOME		
Other Golf Competition fees recovered	2,070	5,720
Singapore/Malaysia Law Games @	83,439	53,180
	85,509	58,900
LESS EXPENDITURE		
Bank charges	21	131
Miscellaneous	665	1,924
Inter-Professional Games	2,132	4,767
Insurance	–	135
Other games	13,045	10,382
Singapore/Malaysia Law Games @	104,971	57,488
	120,834	74,827
Deficit for the financial year	(35,325)	(15,927)
Balance brought forward	(59,993)	(44,066)
Balance carried forward	(95,318)	(59,993)

SINGAPORE/MALAYSIA LAW GAMES @

Income		
Contributions/sponsorships received	71,900	52,900
Dinner and dance costs recovered	11,539	280
	83,439	53,180
Less expenditure		
Games' Day Expenses	12,331	21,588
Dinner and dance	42,453	10,158
Refreshments and receptions	21,355	–
Souvenirs and plaques	9,770	9,536
Transport and travelling	966	3,860
Training	18,096	12,346
	104,971	57,488
Deficit	(21,532)	(4,308)

18 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.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Miscellaneous expenses	(2,742)	—
Balance brought forward	77,523	77,523
Balance carried forward	<u>74,781</u>	<u>77,523</u>

19 Monies held in Trust

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Pursuant to section 74 of the Legal Professional Act ("Section 74 money")	396,334	554,555
Education Fund under compulsory professional indemnity scheme	989,012	706,236
	<u>1,385,346</u>	<u>1,260,791</u>

Section 74 money comprises the following accounts:

	As at 1 April 2015 \$	Additions \$	Expenditure/ Transfers \$	Net change \$	As at 31 March 2016 \$
Jeffrey Soh & Co	80,865	5	(59,803)	(59,798)	21,067
Edwin Tay & Co	565	—	(565)	(565)	—
S Uthuman Ghani & Co *	6,252	—	(25)	(25)	6,227
David Rasif & Partners	29,303	—	—	—	29,303
Guofu *	20,960	2	(20,962)	(20,960)	—
Chor Pee & Partners *	71,234	1	(71,235)	(71,234)	—
CH Chua & Co *	25,650	—	(25,650)	(25,650)	—
David Khong & Associates	3,363	—	(3,363)	(3,363)	—
G K Emmanuel *	1,093	—	(1,093)	(1,093)	—
Chida Peri & Co	17,897	—	—	—	17,897
Ng Cher Yeow	2,553	1	—	1	2,554
Sadique Marican & Z M Amin	13,718	—	—	—	13,718
Boey Ng & Wan	266,566	2,628	—	2,628	269,194
Mustaffa & Co	—	—	—	—	—
TH Tan Raymond & Co	3,150	—	(420)	(420)	2,730
CM Chiong & Co	5,274	3	—	3	5,277
Christopher Yap & Co	111	—	—	—	111
H A Jalil & Associates	6,001	—	—	—	6,001
S Gunaseelan & Partners *	—	22,255	—	22,255	22,255
	<u>554,555</u>	<u>24,895</u>	<u>(183,116)</u>	<u>(158,221)</u>	<u>396,334</u>

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

20 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:

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Surplus before tax	2,913,699	2,273,743
Tax at statutory tax rate of 17%	495,329	386,536
Expenses not deductible for tax purposes	46,908	13,695
Enhanced tax allowance	(50,010)	(62,447)
Income not subject to tax	(243,161)	(180,380)
Utilisation of approved donations to the Division	(239,045)	(160,081)
Others	(10,021)	2,677
	—	—

21 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.

22 Financial instruments**(a) Categories of financial instruments**

The following table sets out the financial instruments at their carrying amount at the balance sheet date:

	2016 \$	2015 \$
<i>Financial assets</i>		
Receivables (excluding prepayments)	2,436,945	1,539,952
Fixed deposits, bank and cash balances	17,333,414	15,883,379
Loans and receivables	19,770,359	17,423,331
<i>Available-for-sale financial assets</i>		
Interest bearing securities	8,202,324	8,031,737
Equity instruments	2,026,677	2,182,560
Funds placed with fund manager	2,029,614	—
	12,258,615	10,214,297
<i>Financial liabilities</i>		
Payables	549,160	522,539
Monies held in trust	1,385,346	1,260,791
Financial liabilities at amortised cost	1,934,506	1,783,330

22 Financial instruments (cont'd)

(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 dollar, 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.

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 2016, the Society's investment in equity instruments amounted to \$2,435,141 (2015: \$2,182,560). A 10% increase/decrease in the underlying equity prices at the balance sheet date would increase/decrease by equity of \$243,514 (2015: \$218,256).

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.

22 Financial instruments (cont'd)

(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.

23 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 2016 and 31 March 2015.

24 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:

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Not later than one financial year	182,172	210,848
Later than one financial year but not later than five financial years	119,280	249,272
	<u>301,452</u>	<u>460,120</u>

25 Capital commitment

Capital commitments contracted for at the balance sheet date but not recognised in the financial statements.

	2016 \$	2015 \$
Computer software development costs	<u>57,977</u>	<u>–</u>

26 Fee paid to Council Members

No fee is paid to any member of the Council.

27 Interfund - amount due from/(to)

	2016			2015		
	Amount due from \$	Amount due from \$	Total \$	Amount due from \$	Amount due to \$	Total \$
General Fund	778,013	(761,626)	16,387	1,301,972	(705,423)	596,549
Other Funds	3,260	(78,495)	(75,235)	(51,866)	(62,901)	(11,035)
Pro Bono Learning and Support Services	857,087	(994,146)	(137,059)	(702,819)	(1,380,127)	(677,308)
	1,638,360	(1,834,267)	(195,907)	(2,056,657)	(2,148,451)	(91,794)
Compensation Fund	195,907	–	195,907	91,794	–	91,794
Total	1,834,267	(1,834,267)	–	2,148,451	(2,148,451)	–

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

28 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.

29 Authorisation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Society for the financial year ended 31 March 2016 were authorised for issue in accordance with a resolution of the Council dated 6 September 2016.



THE LAW SOCIETY
OF SINGAPORE