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OFFICE OF THE
**PUBLIC
GUARDIAN**

[Webinar] Code of Practice: Navigating the New Office of Public Guardian Office (OPGO) System

 15 February 2022, Tuesday
2.00pm – 3.30pm

 *This programme is conducted as a live webinar.*



No. of Public
CPD Points:
1.5

Practice Area:
Private Client

Training Level:
General

About the Programme

The Mental Capacity (Amendment) Bill 2021 was passed in Parliament on 6 July 2021. The amendments enable the establishment of a new electronic transaction system, OPG Online (OPGO), which will serve as a convenient one-stop platform for online LPA applications and other transactions with the Office of the Public Guardian.

This webinar will introduce OPGO and its key features with a live demo on how to digitally sign on the LPA as Certificate Issuer. The webinar will also cover online Deputy reporting, so that members can advise clients on the duties and responsibilities of being a Deputy.

Programme Outline

| Time | Programme |
|-----------------|--|
| 1.30pm – 2.00pm | Registrants to log on |
| 2.00pm – 2.20pm | Welcome and Opening Remarks on Mental Capacity Act (MCA): Key Principles of the MCA Regina Ow – Public Guardian, Office of the Public Guardian |
| 2.20pm – 2.40pm | Role and Responsibilities of a Certificate Issuer Chong Yue-En – Managing Director, Bethel Chambers LLC |
| 2.40pm – 3.00pm | Office of Public Guardian Online (OPGO) and Certification Process (includes LPA Form 1 & 2) Peh Hui Qi - Manager/FEDS, Office of the Public of Guardian |
| 3.00pm – 3.30pm | Panel Discussion <u>Moderator</u> Chong Yue-En – Managing Director, Bethel Chambers LLC <u>Panellists</u> Regina Ow – Public Guardian, Office of the Public Guardian Goh Kok Yeow – Senior Partner, De Souza Lim & Goh LLP |
| 3.30pm | End |

Speakers' Profile



Regina Ow – Public Guardian, Office of the Public Guardian

Regina Ow heads the Office of the Public Guardian, a division of the Ministry of Social and Family Development, Singapore.

Her previous appointments include serving as a District Judge and Assistant Registrar of the Family Justice Courts from 1997 to 2015. Her core duties were to mediate or hear divorce; child custody; child/spousal support; family violence; mental capacity, probate and adoption cases. From 1990 to 1997, she was a State Counsel and Deputy Public Prosecutor of the Attorney-General's Chambers, Singapore where she advised, represented and drafted documents for the Singapore Government in civil suits and international bi-lateral talks; rendered legal advice to Government Ministries and prosecuted criminal cases.

She was seconded to the Office of the Public Guardian as the Public Guardian on 1 January 2016.

She holds Master and Bachelor of Law degrees from the National University of Singapore and has spoken on the Mental Capacity Act and OPG operations at various international and local conferences and seminars.



Chong Yue-En – Managing Director, Bethel Chambers LLC

Mr Chong Yue-En has practiced in the area of Mental Capacity Law since 2010, first as a Legal Service Officer in the Legal Aid Bureau, and later in private practice. He has a LLM (Social Care Law) (Distinction), with research focusing on protecting people without mental capacity from financial abuse.

As a Mental Capacity Lawyer, he has assisted numerous families with contested and non-contested deputyship related applications. He was the lead attorney in RE: TQR a landmark case where deputies were awarded investment powers.

Yue-En is also a registered Professional Donee and Deputy and have been appointed as Professional Donee for his clients.

As a Certificate Issuer, Yue-En also frequently advises individuals and families in the preparation and drafting of LPA 2s. As a person who embraces new technology, Yue-En has also been invited by the Office of Public Guardian to test out their new OPGO system at various stages of OPGO's development.

Finally, Yue-En is the Vice-Chairman of the Law Society's Probate Committee, and full a member of Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP).



Peh Hui Qi - Manager/FEDS, Office of the Public Guardian

Hui Qi is a member of the OPGO development team who help to design the work flow and processes to ensure a seamless and intuitive user journey for all.



Goh Kok Yeow – Senior Partner, De Souza Lim & Goh LLP

Goh Kok Yeow is Co-Chairperson of the Law Society of Singapore's Probate Practice Committee. He was also a Senior Teaching Fellow of the Singapore Institute of Legal Education (SILE) from 2010 -2019, and he was the Course Co-ordinator, lead lecturer and Chief Examiner for the Wills, Probate & Administration (WPA) Elective in the Preparatory Course leading to Part B of the Singapore Bar Examinations conducted by the SILE for 2015 and 2016. He was a member of the 2014 Mental Capacity Act Sub-Committee for the Improvement of Processes and Procedures, which reported on and recommended amendments to the procedures for Mental Capacity Act applications for Court Orders for appointments of deputies for persons lacking in mental capacity. He has also successfully mediated probate costs disputes under the Law Society of Singapore's Costs Dispute Scheme.

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No of Public CPD Points: 1.5
Practice Area: Private Client
Training Level: General

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|---------------------|--|
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