

Introductory Workshop on Holding a Watching Brief

23 Nov 2017 (Thursday) | 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm

Raja Aziz Addruse Auditorium
Straits Trading Building, Unit 2-02A, 2nd Floor
2 Leboh Pasar Besar, 50050 Kuala Lumpur

Registration fee | RM30
(inclusive of 6% GST)



CPD Code: T3/23112017/BC/BC172762/2

Registration for the event will begin at 2:00 pm

The Bar Council Child Rights Committee is organising an introductory workshop for lawyers on holding a watching brief.

This interactive workshop will cover the following topics:

- (1) **Introduction**
 - What is a watching brief?
 - What is locus *standi*?
 - What are the differences between watching brief lawyers and *amicus curiae*?
- (2) **Rationale for holding a watching brief; the role of the lawyer**
 - The watching brief as a tool for the protection of vulnerable victims / witnesses in the criminal justice system
 - Who are vulnerable victims / witnesses?
 - Understanding the challenges faced by vulnerable victims / witnesses in the criminal justice system (eg re-victimisation)
- (3) **Overview of applicable international treaties and conventions**
 - Convention on the Rights of the Child, Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
 - Facilitating access to justice

Programme

2:00 pm	Registration
2:30 pm	Introduction
3:00 pm	Rationale for Holding a Watching Brief; the Role of the Lawyer
4:00 pm	Overview of Applicable International Treaties and Conventions
5:00 pm	End of Workshop



Organised by
Bar Council Child Rights Committee
15 Leboh Pasar Besar, 50050 Kuala Lumpur
Tel: 03-2050 2050

About the Speakers

Goh Siu Lin, Messrs Kee Sern, Siu & Huey

Goh Siu Lin graduated from the University of Bristol, England. She is the Immediate Past President of the Association of Women Lawyers. She has an active law practice with emphasis on banking litigation, contentious probate disputes, adoptions and matrimonial disputes with an international jurisdictional flavour. She has held watching briefs for the Joint Action Group for Gender Equality ("JAG") in several landmark cases involving interfaith conversion custodial disputes, citizenship for stateless children, and a domestic violence murder trial. She advocates and lobbies for law reform in child and family legislation. She is the Co-Chairperson of the Bar Council Family Law Committee, and Co-Deputy Chairperson of the Bar Council Child Rights Committee.

Sharmila Sekaran, Messrs Jerald Gomez & Associates

Sharmila Sekaran studied law in the United Kingdom, and graduated with an Honours degree in law and economics. She was admitted as an Utter Barrister to the Bar of England and Wales, and is a member of the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, London. She was admitted as an advocate and solicitor of the High Court of Malaya, and her area of practice focuses on intellectual property rights. She has an active corporate advisory and general litigation practice, and also provides legal advice in family law matters.

Sharmila is a co-founder and the founding Chairperson of Voice of the Children, a child rights advocacy group that raises awareness on all issues affecting children in Malaysia. She has been appointed onto a number of special task forces to advise the Malaysian Government on appropriate laws and policies to ensure the protection of children. She is also regularly invited to speak on issues on adoption, citizenship, juvenile justice, and rights of children and families, as well as on access to justice, intellectual property enforcement and protection, and data protection, both locally and internationally.

Sharmila has been a speaker and trainer at the human rights workshops organised by the Bar Council, Kuala Lumpur Bar Committee, and Selangor Bar Committee. She is a founding-director and trainer of Loyarburok and LB Training.

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I would like to register for the event (all fields must be completed):

Name: _____

(Tick where applicable)

Member of the Bar (Membership No): _____

Pupil in Chambers (Petition No): _____

Non-Member (NRIC No): _____

Email: _____

Name of Firm / Organisation: _____

Preferred Name for GST Tax Invoice: _____

GST Registration No: _____

Address: _____

Tel: _____ Fax: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

The personal information that you provide to the Bar Council, whether now or in the future, may be used, recorded, stored, disclosed or otherwise processed by or on behalf of the Bar Council for the purposes of facilitation and organisation of this event, research and audit, and maintenance of a participant database for the promotion of this event, and such ancillary services as may be relevant.

Payment options:

- (1) Direct deposit to Hong Leong Bank Berhad (Account: 00200760645); or
- (2) Cheque or bank draft, payable to "Malaysian Bar"; or
- (3) Cash payment (up to RM250 only), at the ground floor of the Bar Council Secretariat

All payments must be made in advance of the event, and include all bank charges. Registration will be confirmed once proof of payment is provided by email or fax, and full payment is received.

Places are limited and registration is on a first come, first served basis.

Cancellations must be made in writing. There will be no refunds for cancellations made after **21 Nov 2017 (Tuesday)** but substitutions are allowed. The organiser reserves the right to modify, cancel or postpone the event, should circumstances arise that make such action necessary, whereupon all registration fees paid will be refunded.

- (1) No recording of the event is permitted via any means at any time.
- (2) No part of the event content may be used/reproduced in any form without the written and explicit consent of the Bar Council and speaker(s).

Points for the Continuing Professional Development ("CPD") Scheme will not be awarded to Members of the Bar and pupils in chambers who arrive more than 15 minutes late, are not present throughout the event, or leave before its scheduled end.

Please direct all correspondence (including completed registration forms and proof of payment) and enquiries to:

Florence Laway

(03-2050 2104; florence@malaysianbar.org.my) or

Rajeswari Gunarasa

(03-2050 2089; rajeswari@malaysianbar.org.my)

Fax: 03-2032 2043



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